



**GM CHIEF BARRA
GRILLED ON RECALL
AT HOUSE HEARING**

Page 2



**NATO ORDERS END
TO COOPERATION
WITH RUSSIA**

Page 9

Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Wednesday, April 2, 2014



President Barack Obama, with Vice President Joe Biden, speaks in the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington, Tuesday, April 1, 2014, about the Affordable Care Act. The deadline to sign up for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act passed at midnight Monday night.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama on Tuesday celebrated a better-than-expected 7.1 million sign-ups for health coverage that he said should end the debate over

whether his signature legislation should be repealed. Obama announced the 7 million threshold that once was seen as unattainable, even as the number still could climb. People

who started applying but couldn't finish before the Monday midnight deadline can have extra time, as do potential enrollees whose special circumstances kept them from signing up in

time. "The Affordable Care Act is here to stay," Obama declared in a feisty Rose Garden speech the day after the deadline for Americans to enroll. The 2010 passage of the

Affordable Care Act has been the No. 1 legislative achievement of Obama's presidency.

Continued on page 3

GM Chief Barra expresses remorse at hearing

Bill Vlasic

Matthew L. Wald

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WASHINGTON - After a series of blistering statements from lawmakers Tuesday, General Motors' chief executive, Mary T. Barra, expressed deep remorse at a House hearing for the automaker's decade-long failure to recall defective vehicles linked to 13 deaths.

But Barra offered scant new information in her opening

ters - including the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and the Boston Marathon bombing.

Her appearance before a subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee represented a significant new phase in the company's crisis since it issued recalls that began in February for 2.6 million Cobalts and other vehicles.

Rep. Tim Murphy, R-Pa.,

to accidents that occurred before it emerged from bankruptcy in July 2009.

The chairman of the House committee, Rep. Fred Upton, R-Mich., said the hearing was the first step in discovering why GM did not recall flawed vehicles sooner, and why the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration did not formally investigate the possibility of defects after reports of fatal accidents.

"Documents produced to

came at the request of Robert Hilliard, a Texas lawyer who is representing families and has filed a class-action lawsuit against GM.

"These folks told her about their losses, and everyone in the room got a chance to speak," Hilliard said. "It was pretty raw and emotional."

Hilliard described Barra as "very thoughtful and very attentive" as family members described the pain



Mary Barra, chief executive of General Motors, leaves after testifying before a subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee on Capitol Hill in Washington, April 1, 2014. After a series of blistering statements from lawmakers on Tuesday, Barra expressed deep remorse for the automaker's decade-long failure to recall defective vehicles linked to 13 deaths.

(Gabriella Demczuk/The New York Times)

remarks about how and why GM repeatedly failed to fix faulty ignition switches on Chevrolet Cobalts and other compact cars, despite conducting multiple internal studies of the problem since 2001.

"I cannot tell you why it took years for a safety defect to be announced in that program, but I can tell you that we will find out," she said, adding, "I am deeply sorry."

In her testimony, Barra was expected to make news by announcing that GM had hired a global safety director. She did that, but she also said GM had hired Kenneth R. Feinberg, a lawyer who specializes in apportioning restitution payments in major disas-

chairman of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee, said: "What we have here is a failure to communicate and the results were deadly."

Members of Congress and the families of people killed in GM cars are urging Barra to declare the cars unsafe to drive until new ignition switches are installed. So far, GM has said the vehicles are safe to operate as long as there are no objects attached to the ignition key.

And GM is coming under increasing pressure from lawmakers to establish a fund to compensate victims of accidents in recalled models. The automaker currently has legal immunity from safety lawsuits related

the committee show that both NHTSA and GM received complaints and data about problems with ignition switches and air bags," Upton said in his opening remarks. "These complaints go back at least 10 years."

Besides the congressional inquiry, the company's actions are under investigation by NHTSA, which itself is being scrutinized, and the Justice Department. In addition, several lawsuits have been filed on behalf of the families of accident victims.

On Monday evening, Barra met privately with 22 family members of accident victims at GM's offices in Washington.

The two-hour meeting

of losing loved ones in accidents involving Cobalts and other cars that have been recalled for faulty switches. A GM spokesman, Greg Martin, confirmed the meeting took place, but declined to comment further. "Out of respect for the families, we are not providing details," he said. The families held a news conference Tuesday at the Capitol, part of what is expected to be a pivotal day in the congressional investigation of GM's actions, and the failure by federal regulators to open defect investigations into the ignition switches.

GM conducted several internal investigations of the switch problems, dating back as far as 2001. □

Malaysia releases cockpit transcript from missing jet

KIRK SEMPLE

© 2014 New York Times

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia

- Radio communications between the cockpit of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 and air traffic controllers before the plane disappeared early on March 8 provide no apparent indication why the plane suddenly veered from its intended flight path to Beijing and vanished over the Indian Ocean, according to a transcript released Tuesday by the Malaysian authorities.

The transcript covers about 54 minutes, from just before the Boeing 777-200 pushed back from the gate at Kuala Lumpur International Airport to the last words from the cockpit with air traffic personnel in Malaysia before they lost contact with the plane around 1:19 a.m. as it was approaching Vietnamese airspace. Malaysian officials have said that the actions of the plane - including its change of course and the disabling of its communication systems - suggested that someone onboard had deliberately diverted it. As a result, the plane's pilot, Zaharie Ahmad Shah, and his co-pilot, Fariq Abdul Hamid, have come under intense scrutiny. In a statement with the transcript, Hishammuddin Hussein, Malaysia's defense minister and acting transportation minister, said there was "no indication of anything abnormal in the transcript." But the banality of the communications, he said, did not change the opinion of investigators that up until the plane dropped off military radar, more than an hour after the cockpit's last contact with air traffic controllers, Flight 370's "movements were consistent with deliberate action by someone on the plane." The transcript's release came as the international search for the missing plane continued in a vast area of the Indian Ocean. At least 11 aircraft and nine ships explored the latest search zone on Tuesday, officials said, and for the first time Australia deployed an airborne traffic controller to help coordinate the many planes involved in the hunt and help avert midair collisions. □



White House celebrates health care sign-ups

Continued from Front

Eager to deny Obama any kind of legislative legacy, Republicans have bitterly opposed the law which they say swells big government and represents an unprecedented federal intrusion in the U.S. economy. It remains unclear how well the Affordable Care Act will work and whether its implementation will see Americans change their views on a law that remains unpopular and widely misunderstood.

About 50 million Americans lacked health care coverage as the law began taking effect, and supporters hope it will significantly reduce the ranks of the uninsured.

But the administration has not said how many of those who already have signed up closed the deal by paying their first month's premiums. Also unknown is how many were previously uninsured — the real test of Obama's health care overhaul. In addition, the law expands coverage for low-income people through Medicaid, the government health care program for the poor, but only about half the states have agreed to implement that option.

The months ahead will show whether the Affordable Care Act will meet its mandate to provide affordable health care coverage or whether high deductibles, paperwork snags and narrow physician networks make it a bust.

After winning control of the House of Representatives in the 2010 elections, Republicans have voted more than 50 times to revoke or seriously undermine the program, widely known as "Obamacare." Those bills

harming the American people.

"Every promise the president made has been broken: Health care costs are rising, not falling," Steel said. "Americans are losing the doctors and plans that

will actually lower health care costs and help create jobs."

Obama lashed out at critics who still argue that the law should be repealed.

"I don't get it," he said. "Why are folks working so

Instead, this law is helping millions of Americans, and in the coming years it will help millions more."

The number of people signed up for health insurance could still climb. People who started applying



President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden after speaking about the Affordable Care Act in the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington, April 1, 2014. More than 7 million people signed up for medical insurance through exchanges set up by Obama's new health care program by Monday night's deadline, meeting the forecast originally set for the six-month enrollment period, the White House announced on Tuesday.

(Stephen Crowley/The New York Times)

have never made it to the floor in the Democratic-controlled Senate.

The law is at the center of competitive congressional races across the country. Michael Steel, spokesman for Republican House Speaker John Boehner, argued that the law was

they like — especially seniors suffering under President Obama's Medicare cuts. Small businesses are afraid to hire new workers, hobbling our economic growth. That's why we must replace this fundamentally-flawed law with patient-centered solutions that

hard for people not to have health insurance? Why are they so mad about the idea of folks having health insurance? Many of the tall tales that have been told about this law have been debunked. There are still no death panels. Armageddon has not arrived.

but couldn't finish before the deadline can have extra time, as do potential enrollees whose special circumstances kept them from meeting the deadline. Obama plans to present updated numbers during a Rose Garden appearance later Tuesday. □

Bishops celebrate Mass along US-Mexico border

BRIAN SKOLOFF

Associated Press

NOGALES, Arizona (AP) —

Roman Catholic leaders made a rare visit to the border and celebrated Mass on Tuesday in the shadow of the fence separating the U.S. and Mexico, offering Holy Communion through the steel barrier to people on the Mexican side as they sought to bring attention to the plight of immigrants.

Cardinal Sean O'Malley, the leader of the Boston Archdiocese, led a delegation of bishops from around the country and Mexico in the trip to the border, less than a week after President Barack Obama discussed immigration reform in a meeting with Pope Francis. They toured the border city of Nogales, walked along

a notorious section of the border that was once a popular crossing point for drug and immigrant smugglers, and celebrated Mass just a few feet from the fence.

The Catholic leaders believe that immigration is a humanitarian issue that deserves urgent attention by Congress. They cite the dozens of immigrants who die each year in the brutal desert terrain while trying to cross illegally into the United States along the roughly 2,000-mile (3,200-kilometer) long border with Mexico and note that the immigrants are simply trying to find better lives in America. "This is not just a political or economic problem," O'Malley said Tuesday. "This is a moral problem."



Cardinal Sean O'Malley leads mass, Tuesday, April 1, 2014, along the international border wall in Nogales, Ariz. A delegation of Roman Catholic leaders celebrated Mass along the U.S.-Mexico border to raise awareness about immigration and to pray for policy changes.

(AP Photo/Matt York)

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Several hundred people attended the Mass, which was translated into Spanish, and a few dozen people peered through the border fence from Mexico to watch the ceremony. O'Malley and Bishop Gerald Kicanas of the Tucson Diocese offered Holy Communion through the fence, providing people in Mexico wafers as a blessing as some of the recipients broke down in tears.

During the Mass, the clergymen laid a wreath at the border wall to remember those who have died. It followed a similar event in Lampedusa, Italy, last year when the pope threw a wreath into the Mediterranean Sea to remember migrants who have died attempting to reach Europe. The push for immigration reform in Congress has been stalled for months, with Democrats and Republicans unable to reach an agreement over the divisive issue.

The Senate passed a com-

prehensive bill last June, but the measure stalled in the Republican-controlled House of Representatives, where Republicans have argued for a piecemeal approach to reforming the system.

Minority Democrats last week tried to force a vote in the House on a comprehensive immigration bill, an effort that is likely to fail given Republican reluctance to address the topic in an election year while all signs point to major gains for the Republicans in the November midterm elections.

During his first meeting with Pope Francis last week at the Vatican, Obama expressed his interest in getting immigration reform through Congress, explaining during a news conference that "there was still an opportunity for us to make this right and get a law passed."

"And as someone who came from Latin America, I think he (Pope Francis) is very mindful of the plight of so many immigrants who are wonderful people, working hard, making contributions, many of their children are U.S. citizens, and yet they still live in the shadows, in many cases have been deported and are separated from families," Obama said. □



Holder:

Khalid Sheik Mohammad won't be tried in NY

LARRY NEUMEISTER

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder said Tuesday he still believes Manhattan is the right place to put the self-professed mastermind of the Sept. 11 attacks on trial but he won't revisit the decision to have his fate decided by a military tribunal instead.

Holder commented on the case against Khalid Sheik Mohammed during a visit to New York to congratulate the trial team that last week won a conviction of Sulaiman Abu Ghaith, who is Osama bin Laden's son-in-law and was al-Qaida's spokesman after the 2001 attacks.

The attorney general said it was fitting that Abu Ghaith, "who publicly gloated about the attacks on the World Trade Center, stood trial near where those buildings once stood; before a jury of New Yorkers, and; in full view of many of those who lost loved ones in the attack."

He added: "This verdict has proven beyond any doubt that proceedings such as these can safely occur in the city I am proud to call home, as in other locations across our great nation." But he said at a news conference that the success of the Abu Ghaith prosecution did not mean Mohammed could be moved to New York for a civilian trial. "The time has passed for that determination," Holder said. "This is not a decision that we are going to revisit."

In November 2009, Holder announced that Mohammed would be tried in Manhattan courts. He reversed the decision in April 2011 amid rising political opposition and claims by city officials that a trial would damage the local economy and require hundreds of millions of dollars to boost security.

On Tuesday, Holder said he based his decision to announce Mohammed would be tried in New York on the recommendations of prosecutors in New York and the Eastern District of

Virginia.

"I think the decision I announced at that time was a correct one," Holder said. "Many of the problems that we're now seeing in the military commissions were predicted in the papers that I reviewed that helped shape my decision."

When Holder announced in 2011 that Mohammed would be tried before a military tribunal, he said families of victims of the attacks deserved swift justice.

The prosecution of Mohammed and four others at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, drag on with a trial unlikely before next year.

Holder praised the handling of Abu Ghaith's case in a trial before U.S. District Judge Lewis A. Kaplan.

"The defendant was put on trial a little over a year after being captured," he said. "He was convicted on all three counts after roughly six hours of jury deliberations."

He said the government had demonstrated "great skill" in catching foreign terror suspects, obtaining high-value intelligence from them and then processing them through the civil court system, with more than 165 defendants convicted of terrorism or terrorism-related charges in U.S. courts since 2009.

"While our military courts remain an appropriate venue in certain circumstances, decisions on how best to seek convictions against terrorism defendants must always be based on prosecutorial considerations and never on political ones," he said. Abu Ghaith, who married bin Laden's eldest daughter, is the highest-ranking al-Qaida figure brought to trial on U.S. soil since the Sept. 11 attacks. Prosecutors said he played a leading role in the terror organization's post-9/11 propaganda videos, but defense lawyers argued he was being prosecuted for his words and associations, not his deeds.

U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara said the conviction of



U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, right, speaks while U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York Preet Bharara looks on during a news conference in New York, Tuesday, April 1, 2014. Holder says the successful prosecution of Osama bin Laden's son-in-law in New York shows terror trials can be safely held in the United States. (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

Abu Ghaith had prompted some Sept. 11 families to contact his office to ex-

press "gratitude and relief that justice was done in this case." □

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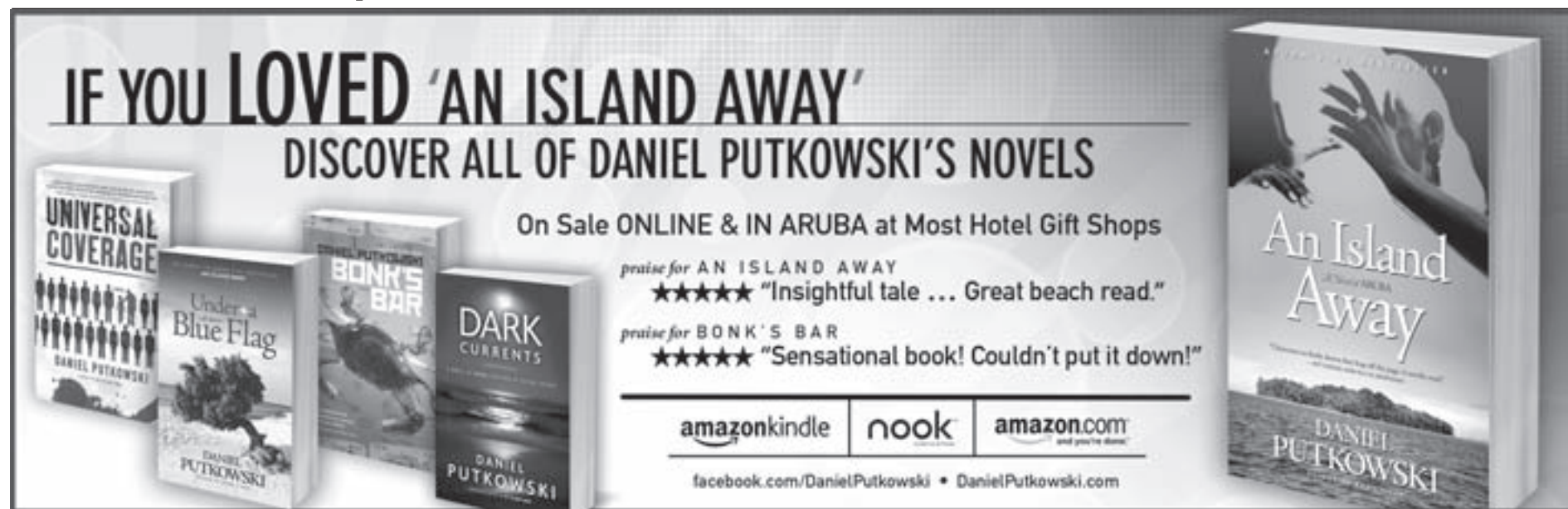
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Report traces Port Authority's flaws to a crumbling business model

MATT FLEGENHEIMER

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For years, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey has been an easy target - a behemoth so politicized that its role in last year's lane closings at the George Washington Bridge is perhaps the scandal's least surprising element.

On Friday, Gov. Chris Christie of New Jersey said he was "intrigued by the idea of dismantling the Port Authority" and dividing control between the states. One day later, Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo of New York agreed that "structural changes are a possibility" at the bistate agency. But as the furor over the lane closings has grown,

engulfing Christie and several of his top aides, a review of agency operations suggests that its familiar flaws - mismanagement, patronage, rivalries between the states - are symptoms of a decaying business model, done in by a relentless desire to expand beyond the agency's core transportation functions.

In recent decades, the agency has increasingly yielded to governors on fiscally dubious projects that have been financed through toll increases on the authority's bridges and tunnels.

A report to be released this week, from New York University's Rudin Center for

Transportation Policy and Management, says the agency spent more than \$800 million from 2002 to 2012 on "regional projects" chosen by the governors' offices. In the coming years, the pace of spending on zero-return state projects is expected to accelerate.

"It is no longer possible for the Port Authority to adequately fund its own facilities and services while simultaneously allocating hundreds of millions for non-revenue-generating state projects," wrote the report's authors, Mitchell Moss, the Rudin Center's director, and Hugh O'Neill, a former assistant executive director at the Port Authority. □

US confirms warrantless searches of Americans' communications

EILEEN SULLIVAN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

The Obama administration has conducted warrantless searches of Americans' communications as part of the National Security Agency's surveillance operations that target foreigners located outside of the U.S., the administration's top intelligence official confirmed in a letter to Congress disclosed Tuesday. These searches were authorized by a secret surveillance court in 2011, but it was unclear until Tuesday whether any such searches on Americans had been conducted.

The recent acknowledgment of warrantless searches on Americans offers more insight into U.S. government surveillance operations put in place after the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The government has broadly interpreted these laws to allow for the collection of communications of innocent Americans, practices the Obama administration maintains are legal. But President Barack Obama has promised to review some of these programs to determine whether the government should be conducting this type of surveillance at all.

"Senior officials have sometimes suggested that government agencies do not deliberately read Americans' emails, monitor their online activity or listen to their phone calls without a warrant," Democratic Sens. Ron Wyden and Mark

Udall said in a joint statement. "However, the facts show that those suggestions were misleading, and that intelligence agencies have indeed conducted warrantless searches for Americans' communications."

Wyden has pressed the administration on whether these searches on Americans have occurred. In a March 28 letter to Wyden, James Clapper, the government's top intelligence official, said the NSA has searched for Americans' communications within information it collected when it targeted foreigners located outside the U.S. In his letter, Clapper also pointed to a declassified document released last August that also acknowledged the use of such searches and stated that these searches were reviewed, and there was no finding of wrongdoing. It was unclear how often these searches are conducted. Documents disclosed last year by former NSA systems analyst Edward Snowden showed that the government collects mass amounts of data from major Internet companies such as Google, Apple, Microsoft and Facebook through one of its programs designed to target communications of foreigners located outside the U.S. The government is not allowed to use this authority to collect Americans' communications, but conversations of innocent Americans are collected inadvertently. □



A PATH train arrives at a stop in Newark, N.J. A review of Port Authority of New York and New Jersey operations suggest that familiar flaws in the agency are symptoms of a decaying business model, done in by a relentless desire to expand beyond the agency's core transportation function. In 2012, the PATH lost about \$400 million, according to the review.

(Michael Kirby Smith/The New York Times)

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US Financial Front:

America's auto sales accelerated on drive thru March

DEE-ANN DURBIN

AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — U.S. auto sales beat expectations in March.

Automakers said Tuesday that new car and truck

expectations. The sales pace was the fastest since November, according to Autodata Corp.

March sales helped rescue what was otherwise a disappointing first quarter.

cent to nearly 14,000.

Toyota's sales rose 5 percent. Sales of the Prius hybrid fell 16 percent, as stable gas prices caused consumer interest in efficient vehicles to wane. But

Edmunds' Web site has remained steady despite the recall crisis, which is currently the subject of several federal investigations.

"Shoppers still see it as a trusted brand," she said.

didn't grow as quickly as last year, when the industry saw a 6 percent sales increase in the same three-month period.

Jesse Toprak, the chief analyst for the car-buying site Cars.com, said the fundamentals that helped autos rebound from the recession remain the same. Low interest rates, declining unemployment and attractive new vehicles will continue to bring buyers into showrooms.

But they won't be buying at the same pace. Since 2010, U.S. sales have grown an average of 10 percent each year, but they're now reaching a natural peak, he said.

"We are certainly transitioning from a market that was in hyper-recovery mode to a mature market where double-digit gains will be increasingly difficult to attain," Toprak said.

Based on the first quarter, Toprak lowered his full-year U.S. sales forecast to 16.1 million vehicles from 16.5 million. The industry sold 15.6 million cars and trucks in 2013.

LMC Automotive, a data firm, also lowered its annual sales forecast, to 16.1 million vehicles from 16.2 million.

Others said improving weather and increases in incentives should boost sales as spring progresses. Weaker-than-expected sales in January and February caused cars to pile up on dealer lots, and automakers will likely offer more deals to get them sold. □



In this March 27, 2014 picture, a Mercedes-Benz vehicle sits inside a car-carrier before being hauled away for distribution from the company's Vehicle Processing Center in Baltimore. After sales slumped in January and February because of the brutal weather, automakers hope a rebound in March get them back on track to sell more than 16 million cars in the U.S. this year.

(AP Photo/Patrick Semansky)

sales picked up speed half-way through the month, culminating in a strong final weekend. Toyota dealers had their two best sales weekends of the year at the end of the month, the company said.

"We're optimistic that momentum will spring us into April," said Bill Fay, who manages the Toyota division in the U.S.

Industry sales rose 6 percent to 1.5 million vehicles, far outpacing analysts' ex-

Analysts had predicted flat growth for the first three months of this year after harsh weather in January and February hurt sales. But March helped pull first quarter sales up 1.4 percent.

The month saw some big gainers. Chrysler's sales rose 13 percent on demand for Ram pickups and the new Jeep Cherokee SUV. Subaru's sales were up 21 percent; its new Forester SUV jumped 53 per-

cent to nearly 14,000. demand for its pickups and SUVs was strong.

General Motors' sales were up 4 percent despite a series of safety recalls of older model vehicles. Buick saw double-digit gains because of its new Encore SUV, and sales of the Chevrolet Silverado pickup rose 7 percent.

Jessica Caldwell, a senior analyst with the car shopping site Edmunds.com, said buyer consideration for GM brands on

Nissan's sales were up 8 percent. Ford's rose 3 percent, with a 5-percent gain for the F-Series pickup compensating for lower car sales.

Volkswagen's sales fell 3 percent, while Hyundai and Honda both saw 2 percent declines. All three rely more heavily on sales of cars, which were outsold by trucks and SUVs in March.

While first quarter sales topped expectations, they

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The Cashless Society Meets the Loose-Change Economy

GREGORY SCHMIDT

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Maj. Ron Busroe of the Salvation Army has no doubt that people are carrying a lot less cash.

Money raised by the organization's annual Christmas kettle program fell 10 percent last year to \$138 million, he said. Some of that drop could be attributed to the decline in foot traffic at retailers and fewer days between Thanksgiving and Christmas, but a big factor, he said, was that people have fewer coins and bills in their pockets.

"With a cash donation, you hear the bell, you see the kettle, you reach in your pocket, you toss in your change and you keep going," said Busroe, the Salvation Army's national secretary for community relations and development.

In a study on consumer trends, the Aite Group, a consulting firm in Boston, reported that cash use had dropped 3 percent in 2010, and it forecast a 17 percent decline by 2015.

The Salvation Army is still trying to figure out how to adapt, but many businesses have already turned to other means of payment. Airlines, for instance, now take only credit cards for in-flight food and drinks. Las Vegas casinos will soon accept prepaid cards at slot machines. Even some strip clubs are testing alternative currencies; one in New York offers its own "dance dollars."

And some businesses have actually benefited from the move away from cash. A 2009 study of New York taxis found that drivers' tips rose when they started accepting credit cards, to an average of about 22 percent from 10 percent.

The drop in the use of cash in the United States

has been driven by a rise in the use of credit and debit cards. But more consumers are turning to mobile payments, using their smartphones to buy items as ordinary as a cup of coffee. Mobile payments doubled in the past year, according to Forrester Research, which predicts that

percent of mobile phone owners in the United States used a mobile wallet to make a point-of-sale transaction in the fourth quarter of 2013, according to a survey released by the Yankee Group.

"It's important to recognize that when we look at the mobile wallet, we're not

velop. As the co-owner of Third Rail Coffee, a small chain of cafes in Manhattan, Ricardo can react quickly to the shifting needs of his customers. His first Third Rail location, a tiny shop in the West Village, had an unusual customer when it first opened: Jack Dorsey, the co-found-

"I felt like we were losing too much business," he said.

The new location had more shelf space, too, and could carry more merchandise.

"The ticket items are a little higher, so it's a little less reasonable to expect that people will have cash."

Ricardo says he is waiting to see what technology customers adopt.

"It's like a foregone conclusion in people's minds that cash will diminish over time, but we're not there yet," he said.

The field is crowded with competitors. Companies like Google and Isis battle with PayPal and Square to be the top wallet, and Apple could topple Near Field Communication technology with its iBeacon, which uses Bluetooth Low Energy for data transmission.

Like retailers, charities are also looking for options as they feel the pinch of donors' carrying less cash. Some organizations have created apps to ease giving, but because donations are not allowed on iOS devices, the apps tend to focus on organizing fundraising goals. Apps that include a "donate" button take users to the charity's mobile website, where they have to register to make a donation.

The Salvation Army has experimented with alternative forms of donations, including QR codes and kettles that accept credit cards,

Busroe said, but they raised little money. Text-to-give donations are more successful, he said, but they tended to be driven by special events like a concert to raise money after a disaster. Another drawback is a \$10 limit on donations. □



Sara Levine, a barista at Third Rail Coffee in Greenwich Village, a cash only establishment that opted to use the Square mobile payment system in its newer location in the East Village neighborhood that found more clients of a different lifestyle, in New York, March 26, 2014. As people carry less cash, relying instead on credit and debit cards and nascent mobile payment technology, businesses and charities are figuring out ways to adapt.

(Joshua Bright/The New York Times)

the market will continue to grow 43 percent annually through 2018.

But the rise in mobile payments will not necessarily lead to a cashless society but rather a society with less cash. People will still use cash for quick transactions like paying their baby sitter or the person who shovels their snow.

Some New York restaurants stubbornly cling to the cachet of their cash-only status. And criminals favor cash because its anonymity makes it harder to track. Mobile payments are still a nascent market. Only 16

looking at a displacement technology, at least not in the foreseeable future," said Jordan H. McKee, an analyst at the Yankee Group. "We're looking at a relatively lengthy adoption timeline."

Consumers are holding back because of a lack of compelling need; cash and credit cards still work quite well, he said.

"There is no overwhelming need to adopt a mobile payment solution as it stands today."

Business owners like Humberto Ricardo are waiting to see what trends de-

er of the mobile payment system Square. Dorsey argued for the benefits of using Square, like the ease of setup and the low transaction fee of 2.75 percent. But Third Rail catered mainly to New York University students who were in a rush to get to class, and Ricardo preferred cash because anything else would slow business.

When he opened a second shop, this one in the East Village, he found a community with a different lifestyle, so he opted to go with Square to process credit card payments.



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NATO orders end to cooperation with Russia

JOHN-THOR DAHLBURG
VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — NATO's foreign ministers ordered an end to civilian and military cooperation with Russia on Tuesday and told their generals and admirals to quickly figure out ways to better protect alliance members that feel threatened by Vladimir Putin's Kremlin.

The 28-member alliance, the keystone of U.S. and European security since the

civilian NATO official who attended the meeting and briefed reporters afterward on condition of anonymity said the steps included:

— The suspension of "all practical civilian and military cooperation" between NATO and Russia. NATO officials said ambassadorial-level contacts will remain open to assure a reliable channel of communication.

— The possible deployment and reinforcement of military assets in eastern NATO

few weeks and then submit them to political leaders for their approval, the NATO official said.

To reassure alliance members closest to Russia and Ukraine, NATO already has stepped up air patrols over the Baltic Sea and AWACS surveillance flights over Poland and Romania.

Prior to the meeting, the chief of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization downplayed reports of a Russian troop withdrawal from areas along its border with

troops, live up to its international obligation and engage in a constructive dialogue with Ukraine."

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, speaking to reporters in Berlin, echoed those comments.

"(Even if some troops left) it's certainly not the final step," she said. "The (Russian) troop concentration on the Ukrainian border is very high."

An estimated 35,000 to 40,000 Russian troops equipped with tanks, other

Ukraine's foreign minister, who was meeting with his NATO counterparts, planned to speak to reporters later in the day.

In other developments, Russia sharply hiked the price for natural gas to Ukraine and threatened to reclaim billions in previous discounts, raising the heat on Ukraine's cash-strapped government.

In Kiev, Ukrainian police moved to disarm members of a radical nationalist group after a shooting



NATO foreign ministers pose for a group photo during a NATO Enlargement Anniversary ceremony at NATO headquarters in Brussels on Tuesday, April 1, 2014. NATO foreign ministers begin a two-day meeting on Tuesday in which they will discuss, among other issues, the situation in Ukraine. Front row from right, Portuguese Foreign Minister Rui Machete, Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu, British Foreign Minister William Hague, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen, Czech Republic's Foreign Minister Lubomir Zaoralek, Belgian Foreign Minister Didier Reynders and Bulgarian Foreign Minister Kristian Vigenin. (AP Photo/Virginia Mayo, Pool)

end of World War II, was reacting to its most serious crisis in years: Russia's unilateral annexation of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula, which the U.S. and its allies have condemned as an illegal land grab.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and the other ministers, meeting at NATO headquarters in Brussels behind closed doors, unanimously agreed Tuesday on a number of measures. A

members, such as Poland and the Baltic states, that feel menaced by Moscow's latest actions.

— A possible increase of readiness levels for the NATO rapid response force.

— A possible review of NATO's crisis response plans, as well as its military training and exercise schedules. NATO Supreme Commander Gen. Phil Breedlove and his subordinates will draw up the proposals within a

Ukraine. Russia's Defense Ministry on Monday said one battalion — about 500 troops — had pulled back.

"This is not what we have seen," NATO chief Anders Fogh Rasmussen told reporters Tuesday.

"And this massive military buildup can in no way contribute to a de-escalation of the situation — a de-escalation that we all want to see — so I continue to urge Russia to pull back its

armored vehicles and fixed and rotary wing aircraft remained positioned near the border with Ukraine, a NATO military official told The Associated Press on Tuesday, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the information. The official described the Russian buildup as "a complete combat force" that was highly threatening to Ukraine.

spree in the capital.

German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier renewed a push for internationally backed direct talks between Russia and Ukraine. "What will be important in the coming days is getting Russia and Ukraine around a table together," Steinmeier said at a meeting with his French and Polish counterparts in Weimar, Germany, before heading to Brussels. □

Kerry-Abbas visit canceled as Mideast talks falter



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry says goodbye to U.S. Ambassador to Israel Daniel Shapiro, left, as he leaves Tel Aviv, Israel Tuesday April 1, 2014, continuing on to NATO meetings in Brussels after meeting in Israel with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu about the Middle East peace process talks.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin, Pool)

**JODI RUDOREN
MICHAEL R. GORDON**
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JERUSALEM - The fraught Mideast peace talks were thrown into confusion Tuesday as a meeting between U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and President Mah-

moud Abbas of the Palestinian Authority was canceled after Abbas moved to join 15 international agencies, a move vigorously opposed by Israel and the United States. Abbas, who has been under pressure from other

Palestinian leaders and the public to press his case for statehood through U.N. agencies, said Tuesday that he was taking that course because Israel had failed to release a fourth batch of long-serving Palestinian prisoners by the end of March, as promised when the talks started last summer.

"We do not want to use this right against anybody or confront anybody," Ab-

bas said as he signed the papers, in a speech broadcast live on Palestinian television. "We don't want to collide with the U.S. administration."

Israel and the United States have argued that Palestinian membership in these international agencies is a mistaken approach to Palestinian statehood, which should instead be negotiated directly between Israel and the Palestinians. Congress passed a law saying such membership could trigger a withdrawal of U.S. financial aid to the Palestinian Authority and other steps.

Kerry, who had flown from Israel to Brussels for a NATO meeting Tuesday and was planning to return to see Abbas in Ramallah, in the West Bank, on Wednesday, was no longer making the trip.

It was unclear from his remarks whether Kerry or Abbas - or both - had canceled the meeting. Nor was it clear what the cancellation might mean for the peace talks, but Kerry insisted at a news conference in Brussels that the peace process was not dead.

"What is important to say about the Middle East right now is it is completely pre-

mature tonight to draw any kind of judgment, certainly any final judgment, about today's events and where things are," Kerry told reporters.

"This is a moment to be really clear-eyed and sober about this process. It is difficult, it is emotional, it requires huge decisions, some of them with great political difficulty, all of which need to come together simultaneously."

He urged both sides to show restraint and said that each side had indicated it was prepared to explore the possibilities for peace. "Obviously, it's moments like this when we all need to remember exactly what brought us to this effort in the first place, what the goal is, and where everybody wants to end up," he said.

A senior Palestinian official said the 15 agencies Abbas moved to join - out of more than 60 possible - did not include the International Criminal Court or International Court of Justice, where many Palestinians hope to prosecute Israelis for what they consider war crimes, including the demolition of homes, arrests and killings of Palestinians, and the building of settlements. □

UK:

Cameron orders Muslim Brotherhood probe

**JILL LAWLESS
Associated Press
LONDON (AP)** — British

Prime Minister David Cameron has ordered the country's intelligence agencies to investigate the Muslim Brotherhood, amid reports the group is using London as a base to plan militant activities after a crackdown in Egypt.

The prime minister's office said Tuesday that the Cameron had commissioned a review "into the philosophy and activities" of the Brotherhood and the government's policy toward the organization.

Cameron said "we will only get our policy right if we fully understand the true nature of the organization

that we are dealing with."

He told reporters at a press conference with Italian premier Matteo Renzi that it was important to understand the organization's beliefs, its stance on violent extremism, its links to other groups and its presence in Britain.

Muslim Brotherhood leader Mohammed Morsi was ousted as Egypt's president in July, and Egypt has declared it a terrorist group. The Brotherhood says it is a peaceful charitable and political organization, but opponents accuse it of orchestrating a wave of deadly attacks on Egyptian police and military targets. Among the questions for Britain's investigation is

whether the group was behind a bomb attack on a tourist bus in the Sinai peninsula that killed three South Koreans and the Egyptian driver.

Britain's investigation will be led by John Jenkins, Britain's ambassador to Saudi Arabia — a country that has joined Egypt in declaring the Brotherhood a terrorist organization.

The Brotherhood has long had a presence in Britain, but the government is investigating whether its ranks have been swelled by members fleeing Egypt. In a statement, the Brotherhood said it would cooperate with the British probe and insisted it "follows a peaceful ideology." □



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Mexico confirms Knights Templar cartel head dead

OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexican officials said Tuesday that one of the two remaining top leaders of the Knights Templar drug cartel was killed after he refused to surrender and opened fire on marines.

Monte Alejandro Rubido, the top official of the federal police, said suspected drug lord Enrique Plancarte died Monday after marines spotted him walking down a street in the central state of Queretaro.

Rubido said the marines called on him to stop, but instead he tried to hide, and when marines pursued him, he fired at them with a gun. The marines shot him, and then administered first aid, but he died soon after, Rubido said.

His identity was proved by fingerprints and comparisons of photographs, Rubido told a news conference.

Plancarte was considered one of four leaders of the Knights Templar cartel, which is based in Michoacan state. □

Venezuela

ID cards issued to curtail food hoarding

HANNAH DREIER
Associated Press
CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— Battling food shortages, the government is rolling out a new ID system that is either a grocery loyalty card with extra muscle or the most dramatic step yet toward rationing in Venezuela, depending on who is describing it.

President Nicolas Maduro's administration says the cards to track families' purchases will foil people who stock up on groceries at subsidized prices and then illegally resell them for several times the amount. Critics say it's another sign the oil-rich Venezuelan economy is headed toward Cuba-style dysfunction.

Registration began Tuesday at more than 100 government-run supermarkets across the country. Working-class shoppers who sometimes endure hours-long lines at government-run stores to buy groceries at steeply reduced prices are welcoming the plan.

"The rich people have things all hoarded away, and they pull the strings," said Juan Rodriguez, who

waited two hours to enter the government-run Abastos Bicentenario supermarket near downtown Caracas on Monday, and then waited another three hours to check out. Rigid currency controls and a

tion.

As of January, more than a quarter of basic staples were out of stock in Venezuelan stores, according to the central bank's scarcity index. The shortages are among the problems

banned purchases by minors, to stop parents from using their children to engage in hoarding, which the government calls "nervous buying."

Rodriguez supports both measures.

"People who go shopping every day hurt us all," he said, drawing approving nods from the friends he made over the course of his afternoon slowly snaking through the aisles with his oversized cart.

Reflecting Maduro's increasingly militarized discourse against opponents he accuses of waging "economic war," the government is calling the new program the "system of secure supply."

Patrons will register with their fingerprints, and the new ID card will be linked to a computer system that monitors purchases. On Tuesday, Food Minister Felix Osorio said the process was off to a smooth start. He says the system will sound an alarm when it detects suspicious purchasing patterns, barring people from buying the same goods every day. □



People buy government subsidized food at a state-run market in Caracas, Venezuela. The government is rolling out a new ID system on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 to track families' purchases of government subsidized groceries. (AP Photo/Fernando Llano)

shortage of U.S. dollars make it increasingly difficult for Venezuelans to find imported basic products like milk, flour, toilet paper and cooking oil. Price controls don't help either, with producers complaining that some goods are priced too low to make a profit and justify produc-

cited by Maduro's opponents who have been staging protests since mid-February.

Checkout workers at Abastos Bicentenario were taking down customers' cell-phone numbers Monday, to ensure they couldn't return for eight days. Shoppers said employees also

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EU ministers approve loans for Greece

NIKI KITSANTONIS

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ATHENS, Greece - Eurozone finance ministers, meeting here under tight security Tuesday, approved the release of 8.3 billion euros in rescue loans to Greece, pointing to signs that the country is emerging from its economic crisis.

"It has been an arduous process, but now we have a positive outcome," Je-

The talks focused on the progress of Greece's economic overhaul and the enduring problem of unemployment that plagues much of the eurozone. The agenda also included the continued efforts to form a more unified banking system in Europe, a possible package of financial assistance to Ukraine and the political context in France after the governing Social-

review was the longest - and Greek officials said it was the toughest - since Athens signed its first loan agreement with the lenders in the spring of 2010. But Greek officials and representatives of the lenders said efforts to overhaul the economy had yielded the first indications of a return to growth in Greece after six of years of grinding recession that has ham-



Eurogroup President Jeroen Dijsselbloem arrives for a press conference after a Eurogroup meeting at Zappeion Hall in Athens, Tuesday, April 1, 2014. Eurozone finance ministers approved the release of 8.3 billion euros in rescue loans to Greece.

(AP Photo/Kostas Tsironis)

roen Dijsselbloem, the Dutch finance minister and head of the Eurogroup of finance ministers, said at a news conference in Athens announcing loans worth \$11.5 billion.

In light of recent street demonstrations by Greeks protesting the belt-tightening measures that have been necessary to keep the bailout money flowing, security in Athens was stepped up for the event. The police banned demonstrations in much of the city center, and helicopters circled the site where foreign dignitaries were gathered.

ists' big losses in local elections over the weekend.

As for Greece, Dijsselbloem said a seven-month review by the country's international lenders - the troika consisting of the European Commission, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund - "can now be closed" after the Greek Parliament's approval of a raft of economic overhauls on Monday.

The provisions included contentious measures lifting barriers to competition and a new framework for the recapitalization of Greek banks. The troika's

mered living standards and pushed unemployment to a record level of nearly 28 percent. Officials in Athens are eager to begin talks on lightening the huge debt burden, considering that Greece is on track to post a budget surplus this year before debt repayments. It forecasts that this primary surplus will come in at 2.4 billion euros for 2013.

Eurogroup officials said a date for the beginning of those talks would be set, assuming the European Union's statistics service, Eurostat, confirms the Greek forecast this month. □

Unemployment lingers in EU

DAVID JOLLY

© 2014 New York Times

PARIS - The labor market in the eurozone remains in the doldrums, official data showed Tuesday, as the unemployment rate ticked higher in France and rose to a record in Italy.

The jobless rate in the 18-nation currency bloc stood at 11.9 percent in February, unchanged from January's revised figure and flat since October, according to a report by Eurostat, the statistics agency of the European Union.

About 25.9 million people remained without work across the 28-nation European Union, Eurostat estimated, out of a potential labor force of about 244 million. There was one bright spot in the data released Tuesday: The number of unemployed people in the European Union fell by 65,000 from January. The monthly data do not provide a detailed breakdown explaining the decrease.

While that figure was an encouraging sign, it did not affect the jobless rate for the eurozone. It did, however, nudge down the unemployment rate for the broader European Union to 10.6 percent in February from the revised 10.7 percent in January.

Clemente De Lucia, an economist at BNP Paribas, said the continuing disappointments from the labor market were not surprising, even though other recent indicators, like surveys of purchasing managers, have suggested that the economy remains in an expansionary phase.

He noted that new hiring was a lagging indicator, as businesses in many European countries face substantial legal barriers to shedding jobs in a downturn and are cautious about adding workers. Thus

the economy may have to pick up some steam before hiring can take off.

The European economy officially rose out of recession in the second quarter of 2013, but the labor market remains in poor health more than five years after the credit crisis struck in 2008, followed by a crisis of confidence in a number of eurozone countries and in the common currency itself.

European leaders responded to those crises with austerity measures - the policy of budget discipline - the only remedy that Germany, with the union's largest economy, would accept.

That policy, which gave the European Central Bank enough cover to promise unlimited action in support of the euro, has calmed the markets. But the decline in government spending also hammered overall demand, undermining employment and reducing inflationary pressures.

In Italy, the jobless rate reached a record 13 percent in February from 12.9 percent a month earlier. The rate is the highest documented by Istat, the Italian national statistical agency, in records that date to the beginning of 1977. The country's new prime minister, Matteo Renzi, is hoping an aggressive policy change will restart the faltering economy.

Michel Martinez, an economist at Société Générale in Paris, said many Italian companies had tried to hold onto their employees through thick and thin, but that many remained under pressure to cut workers to restore weakened profit margins. The Italian jobless rate is probably near its peak now, Martinez said, but will remain high for some time because of the poor state of the country's economy. □



Earth Hour for the third consecutive year at the Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino



ORANJESTAD – This is the third consecutive year that Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino contributes to 'Earth Hour' which is an worldwide event organized once a year by World Wide Fund of Nature (WWF). The goal of this event is to encourage households and businesses to take action on climate change and global movement by turning off lights for one hour. Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino also joined in this event and contributed to the 'Earth Hour' 2014.

Last Saturday from 8:30pm till 9:30pm Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino turned off the lights of the parking lot in front of the government offices, all common light poles, parts of the Renaissance Marina Hotel façade, Renaissance Marketplace exterior lights, Renaissance Mall exterior lights, Seaport Casino exterior lights and signs and also the Crystal Casino tower. "Renaissance Aruba Resort constantly supports activities that create awareness on importance of protecting our environment. This year our community has shown much more interest in the 'Earth Hour' and we are very happy to have been able to turn off the main lights of our resort and the area around our premises to contribute to this important cause", this according to marketing executives of the company; Zugheila Lindeborg. □

Residential Community Gold Coast Delivers Wow Factor!

- 200% Rental Increase, Brand New Website, Expanded Services.

WEST PUNT - Gold Coast, Aruba's newest resort-style residential community in Malmok, is on the move and making a positive mark with enhanced guest services, increased bookings of their rental homes and the recent launch of a brand new website.

Guests of Gold Coast now have the option to choose from a wide variety of special requests and services, in addition to housekeeping and laundry services. Prior to their arrival all Gold Coast guests can arrange for services that will definitely deliver a wow factor and provide for an extraordinary stay in Aruba. These new services include pre arrival grocery shopping, the request for an In-house chef, server, bartender or butler, personal laundry, in-house massage, a personal trainer, Spa treatments and babysitting services. Marketing efforts of the Gold Coast residential community were also en-



hanced with the recent launch of a brand new website: www.arubarentalsvacation.com. Functionalities of this new website include a chat room where guests can immediately reach out with their questions to a Front Of-

fice staff member of Gold Coast. The website also features an easy-to-use booking engine for direct bookings of the Gold Coast condos, townhouses and spacious villas. Lastly, Gold Coast shares its results of the third quar-

ter of 2013. Compared to the same time last year results show a 200% increase in rental business of their condos, townhouses and villas. In addition the occupancy at the rental homes in this residential community also increased by 200% compared to the third quarter of 2012. Construction activities are still ongoing at Gold Coast and it is to be expected that their

magnificent growth will be doubled again next year. Future expansion includes the construction of a Gold Coast Clubhouse. This multi-purpose Clubhouse will feature 2 tennis courts and large community pool, a convenience store, business center, restaurant, Spa and state of the art Fitness Center. The Gold Coast Clubhouse is to be completed in 2014. □

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Aruba says 'Masha Danki' to loyal guests at the Marriott



PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring two loyal and friendly couples as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The honored are Gasper

and Diana La Rosa of Calverton, New York, and Irwin and Daisy Weinstein, of Ocean Site, New York. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as

a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years. The main reasons why they keep coming back to Aruba are the friendly people, the beaches, the beauti-

ful weather, and the local food. The Certificate was presented by Darline S. de Cuba representing Aruba Tourism Authority and Joop Bangma General Manager

and Jenny Boekhoudt Executive Administrative Assistant, Lisette Bouwman Executive Secretary, Mario v/d Werf Loss Prevention Supervisor of Marriott Hotel Surf Club. □



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EAGLE BEACH - Recently, Felix & Betty Yacino were honored as Ambassadors of Goodwill after returning to Aruba for 20 consecutive years. During the same ceremony, Robert & Pennie O'Hara, Elizabeth O'Hara and Abbott Ste-

ven were honored as Distinguished Visitors for the island of Aruba.

The symbolic honorary titles are presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for between 10-and-19 or 20+ years consecutive. Mr. Ricardo Croes representing Aruba Tourism Authority conducted the ceremony at La Cabana & Racquet Club.

Mrs. Yacino commented that she will never change her vacation island for any other island.

Top reason for returning provided by the honorees were they consider Aruba to be the "Happy Island", the great weather, and Friendly Aruban Hospitality, white sand beaches and



the local food. On the pictures Mr. Croes from ATA together with the honorees and hotel Rep. Sharleen from La Cabana & Racquet Club. □



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Percentage of foreign MLB players drops

NEW YORK (AP) — The percentage of Major League Baseball players born outside the United States declined slightly for the second straight season.

The MLB commissioner's office said Tuesday that 223 players among the 853 on opening-day squads and inactive lists were born outside the 50 states. At 26.1 percent, the share is down from 28.2 percent last year and 28.4 percent in 2012. Players come from 16 countries and territories, the most since 2008.

The Dominican Republic has topped the list each year since MLB began tracking in 2005. But its 82 players are down from a high of 99 in 2007.

Venezuela was next with 59, followed by Cuba, which set a high with 19 — four more than its previous mark set last year.

Puerto Rico had 11, followed by Canada (10), Japan and Mexico (nine), Curacao (five), Colombia and Panama (four), Nicaragua (three) and Australia and South Korea (two).

Boston's Xander Bogaerts became the first player from Aruba on an opening-day squad since St. Louis' Sidney Ponson in 2007. Cleveland's Yan Gomes is the first Brazilian on an opening-day squad.

Texas has the most players born outside the 50 states with 15, trailed by San Francisco (13), Seattle (11) and the Chicago Cubs and Milwaukee (10 each).

Figures include active squad, 101 players on the disabled list and two on the restricted list.

The percentage of foreign-born minor leaguers was 47.8, up from 47.3 last year. □

Backing Out



In this March 9, 2014 file photo, Tiger Woods grimaces after teeing off on the 12th hole during the final round of the Cadillac Championship golf tournament in Doral, Fla.

Associated Press

Woods will miss the Masters

DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

Tiger Woods chose surgery to heal his ailing back over a quest for another green jacket, announcing on Tuesday that he will miss the Masters for the first time in his career.

Woods said on his website that he had surgery Monday in Utah for a pinched nerve that had been hurting him for several months, knowing the surgery would keep him from Augusta National next week for the first time since he was a senior in high school.

The No. 1 player in the world is a four-time Masters champion.

"After attempting to get ready for the Masters, and failing to make the necessary progress, I decided in consultation with my doc-

tors to have this procedure done, Woods said. "I'd like to express my disappointment to the Augusta National membership, staff, volunteers and patrons that I will not be at the Masters. "It's a week that's very special to me," he said. "It also looks like I'll be forced to miss several upcoming tournaments to focus on my rehabilitation and getting healthy."

The Masters gets the highest television ratings of any golf tournament, and Woods commands most of the attention, even though he last won a green jacket in 2005. He won his first Masters in 1997 when he set 20 records, from youngest Masters champion (21) to his 12-shot margin of victory.

Woods has been cop-

ing with back issues since last summer: a twinge in the final round of the PGA Championship and spasms in the final round of The Barclays that caused him to fall to his knees. Then, they returned with alarming regularity recently in Florida.

He withdrew after 13 holes in the final round of the Honda Classic with what he described as lower back pain and spasms. Woods shot the highest final round of his career at Doral a week later when he said his back flared up again in the final round. He skipped the Arnold Palmer Invitational, where he was the two-time defending champion, to rest his back and do everything possible to be at Augusta National next week.

"Tiger was gracious in

keeping us updated of his condition and making us aware of his decision," Augusta National chairman Billy Payne said. "We wholeheartedly offered our best wishes for his immediate and long-term recovery. Tiger will be in our thoughts and will be missed by our patrons and all of us at the Masters Tournament next week."

Woods said he had a microdiscectomy for the pinched nerve, performed by neurosurgeon Charles Rich.

A microdiscectomy is a type of minimally invasive spine surgery to relieve pressure and pain caused by a herniated disc.

Continued on page 20

Major League Baseball launches expanded replay era

BEN WALKER

AP Baseball Writer

Major League Baseball launched the expanded replay era Monday, and saw instant results — a pair of missed calls by umpires got fixed fast, without any arguments.

Opening day showed off the game's newest nod to modern technology in a sport that long relied on the eyes of its umpires.

From now on, most every call can be challenged by a manager. When that happens, the final decision will come from a replay booth in New York, rather than the field. And instead of out or safe, fair or foul, disputes will be settled with two words new to baseball's lingo: confirmed or overturned.

MLB Commissioner Bud Selig was at Miller Park in Milwaukee for the first call that got reversed. Minutes later, another ruling got changed at PNC Park in Pittsburgh.

"You know what? They got the play right. That's the bottom line," said Atlanta manager Fredi Gonzalez, who won his challenge in Milwaukee but lost the game.

Baseball was last among



Umpire Ted Barrett (65) listens to a headset during instant replay in the sixth inning of an Opening day baseball game between the Atlanta Braves and Milwaukee Brewers Monday, March 31, 2014, in Milwaukee. Atlanta got a reversal of a call against the Milwaukee Brewers Ryan Braun at first base.

Associated Press

the four major American sports to use video reviews. Even though fans had access to high-tech television screens, MLB stuck with tradition and let umpires make the calls.

In 2008, after a series of missed calls in midseason, baseball went to replay

to resolve disputes on potential home runs. A few months ago, extra replay was added.

Baseball hoped the reviews would come quickly, and that they would cut down on the wild, arm-waving arguments between managers and umps that often

delighted fans.

Of the first five reviews Monday, none took longer than 2½ minutes.

"I think that it sure felt like it was out there 10, 15 minutes," Gonzalez said. "Before tonight's over, I'm going to put a clock on it and see exactly how long it took."

"It's a process that they're looking at two to three years of working through the kinks," he said.

The first use of the increased system occurred in Pittsburgh. Cubs manager Rick Renteria came out to check after Chicago pitcher Jeff Samardzija was called out at first base by umpire Bob Davidson in the fifth inning. Samardzija himself signaled safe as he crossed the bag.

While discussing the play, Renteria got a sign from the dugout to contest the play. Under the new format, teams are allowed to have someone in their clubhouse watch TV replays and then call the bench to say whether it's worth a challenge.

After a 2-minute wait while the umpires hooked up a headset on the field, umpire Larry Vanover — working in the central replay

booth in New York — told them the call was correct.

"It was a combination of Samardzija's reaction and what we were looking at," Renteria said. "We're still trying to figure out what clear and compelling evidence is. It's a work in progress."

Later, Cubs runner Emilio Bonifacio was called safe at first base on a pickoff play in the 10th inning. Pirates manager Clint Hurdle challenged the call and was right that Bonifacio was really out. Pittsburgh wound up winning 1-0.

In Milwaukee, Brewers star Ryan Braun was called safe at first base for an in-field hit in the sixth inning. Gonzalez contested the call and, 58 seconds later, the ruling was overturned.

"I had a pretty good idea that I was out," Braun said. "For all of us, we just hope they get it right, and they did get it right."

New Washington manager Matt Williams used his challenge in the 10th inning of a 9-7 win over the New York Mets. Even though the Nationals held a four-run lead at the time, Williams wanted to be sure after his runner was called out at first base. The ump got it right.

"I tried to get out of the dugout as quick as possible. You don't want to rub it in there, but we have to do it because it's what's best for our club," Williams said.

At Oakland, Crew chief Mike Winters became the first umpire to initiate a review, making the call after a collision at home plate in the sixth inning. Winters wanted to see if John Jaso had illegally blocked the plate under the new rule regarding home plate collisions when the A's catcher tagged the Indians' Michael Brantley, who was sliding.

"Basically with the new rule I just wanted to confirm what I saw that the catcher did not block the plate unnecessarily," Winters said. "He was in fair territory, he gave the runner plenty of plate to go to. I just wanted to be sure." □

Guerrero signs 1-day deal to retire with Angels



Vladimir Guerrero throws the ceremonial first pitch before an opening day baseball game between the Los Angeles Angels and the Seattle Mariners on Monday, March 31, 2014, in Anaheim, Calif.

Associated Press

ANAHEIM, California (AP)

— Vladimir Guerrero of the Dominican Republic signed a one-day contract to retire with the Los Angeles Angels on Monday.

Right before Guerrero threw out the first pitch on opening day, the slugging outfielder signed the contract on the field at Angel Stadium, to a loud ovation from the Anaheim crowd when he put pen to paper. The slugging outfielder hasn't played in the majors since 2011.

The 39-year-old Guerrero played six of his 16 major league seasons with the Angels from 2004-09, winning the 2004 AL MVP award and earning four of his nine All-Star selections. □



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Spurs' streak hits 18 with 103-77 win at Indiana

MICHAEL MAROT
AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) —

Gregg Popovich may be the only guy who can stop the San Antonio Spurs right now.

If the Spurs coach had his way, this franchise-record winning streak would probably already be over. His players don't see it quite the same way.

Tony Parker scored 22 points, Boris Diaw added 14 and the Spurs earned their 18th consecutive NBA win by handing the Indiana Pacers their worst home loss of the season, 103-77, on Monday.

"We just wanted to continue to do what we've been doing, which is push the ball and play at a high pace and share the ball," Parker said. "It's nice to have the record in San Antonio, but it still doesn't mean anything if you don't win it all."

A year ago, the Spurs fell short in Game 7 of the NBA Finals at Miami.

This year, San Antonio seems to be surging at just the right time. The Spurs, with a 58-16 record, haven't lost since Feb. 21 at Phoenix and surpassed their previous best run on the 18th anniversary of their only other 17-game winning streak by beating the NBA's best home team on its own court.

If Popovich had his way, this talk would likely be over.

His players don't believe their coach will allow the streak to continue much longer, especially if the Spurs can clinch the NBA's best record with games to spare. They lead Oklahoma City by 3½ games in the Western Conference and have six more wins



Indiana Pacers forward Paul George, left, is fouled from behind by San Antonio Spurs forward Tim Duncan in the first half of an NBA basketball game in Indianapolis, Monday, March 31, 2014.
Associated Press

than the Pacers and seven more than the Heat with eight to play.

"I think he'll be happy if we lose anytime soon," Parker said, laughing before explaining that Popovich might end it himself. "I'm pretty sure because he's going to rest like half of the team."

On Monday, Tim Duncan went 3 of 10 from the field and Manu Ginobili managed only six points and two assists in 16 minutes. The Spurs still routed a team that had been No. 1 in the East all season. Indiana trails two-time defending champion Miami by percentage points for the top spot in the Eastern Conference.

"We'll worry about a couple of things, staying healthy, finishing the season strong and hopefully going into the playoffs with the confidence we're playing with now," Duncan said.

HEAT 93, RAPTORS 83
MIAMI (AP) — LeBron James scored 32 points and Chris Bosh added 18 as Miami moved into the top spot in the Eastern Conference with a victory over Toronto. Chris Andersen scored 13 points on 5-for-5 shooting and Mario Chalmers added 12 for Miami, which was again without Dwyane Wade, Greg Oden and Ray Allen.

Miami (51-22, .699) moved percentage points ahead

of Indiana (52-23, .693), which lost at home earlier Monday night to San Antonio. It's the first time all season that Miami has been alone atop the East.

The Heat were down 10 midway through the second quarter, and then closed the half on a 22-9 run to take the lead and never trailed again.

BOBCATS 100, WIZARDS 94
CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP) — Kemba Walker and Al Jefferson each had a double-double as Charlotte rallied from an 11-point, fourth-quarter deficit to beat Washington, preventing the Wizards from clinching their first playoff berth since 2008.

Walker finished with 21 points and 10 assists, and Jefferson had 19 points and 11 rebounds despite needing seven stitches in the first half to close a gash above his right eye.

The Wizards came in looking to snap the third-longest playoff drought in the NBA, and led by 16 at the half and 11 with 9:13 left in the game.

But Walker scored nine points in the final quarter, helping the Bobcats pull within two games of Washington in the race for the sixth seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

HAWKS 103, 76ERS 95
ATLANTA (AP) — Paul Millsap scored 28 points and Lou Williams added 22 off the bench, rallying Atlanta to a victory that denied Philadelphia its first winning streak in nearly three months.

The Hawks, clinging to the final playoff spot in the East, snapped a six-game losing streak and won for only the seventh time in 27 games. They came into the night one game ahead of

the New York Knicks.

Williams hit two crucial 3-pointers from the corner in the closing minutes as the Hawks bounced back from an early 14-point deficit.

The 76ers were coming off a victory over Detroit, snapping an NBA record-tying streak of 26 consecutive losses. But they couldn't win two in a row for the first time since Jan. 4.

KNICKS 92, JAZZ 83
SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Carmelo Anthony scored 34 points on 11-of-19 shooting as the New York Knicks pulled away for victory over the Utah Jazz that kept them one game back of the final Eastern Conference playoff berth.

Tyson Chandler added 15 points and nine rebounds, while J.R. Smith scored 13 points and Raymond Felton chipped in 12 points and six assists to help New York (32-43) finish 3-2 on its western trip.

Gordon Hayward scored 18 points, Alec Burks added 17 off the bench and Derrick Favors chipped in 13 points and 13 rebounds for the Jazz (23-52), who lost for the 16th time in their last 18 contests.

GRIZZLIES 94, NUGGETS 92
DENVER (AP) — Zach Randolph had 20 points and 11 rebounds and Mike Conley added 19 points as the Memphis Grizzlies kept pace in the playoff race with a win over the Denver Nuggets.

The Grizzlies moved into a three-way tie with Dallas and Phoenix for seventh in the Western Conference. Memphis plays both teams once more — at the Suns on April 14 and home against the Mavericks in the regular-season finale two days later. □

NHL Capsules

Zajac scores 3 goals, Devils beat Panthers 6-3

The Associated Press

NEWARK, New Jersey (AP)

— Travis Zajac scored the first of his career-best three goals after just 12 seconds as the New Jersey Devils held on for a 6-3 victory over the Florida Panthers on Monday after nearly blowing a three-goal lead. Zajac opened the barrage against Dan Ellis and then netted his second midway through New Jersey's three-goal first period. He completed his first NHL hat trick at 9:37 of the third.

Jaromir Jagr had a goal and three assists, and Ryan Clowe added a goal and two assists.

Zajac also had an assist for the Devils, who are hoping a late-season rally can get them into the playoffs. New Jersey has seven games left.

Jacob Josefson scored the other Devils goal, and Cory Schneider stopped all 13 Florida shots he faced after replacing Martin Brodeur in the second period when New Jersey's lead was cut to 4-3.

Brodeur stopped only six of nine shots, but was credited with the win.

Dmitry Kulikov, Brad Boyes and Brandon Pirri scored for Florida, which lost for the sixth time in seven games.



Los Angeles Kings defenseman Drew Doughty, left, stays on the puck as he battles Minnesota Wild left wing Matt Cooke (24) for it during the second period of an NHL hockey game, Monday, March 31, 2014, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Ellis faced 32 shots, including 18 in the first period.

SENATORS 2, HURRICANES 1, SO

OTTAWA, Ontario (AP) — Ales Hemsky scored the only goal of the shootout as Ottawa edged Carolina.

Hemsky fired a shot off the post and into the net behind Cam Ward in the second round to give the Senators their third straight win and fourth in fifth games.

CRAIG ANDERSON STOPPED ALL

three Carolina shooters, including Elias Lindholm with the final attempt, to earn the victory.

Mika Zibanejad scored in regulation for the Senators, and Anderson made 30 saves.

Jeff Skinner had the lone goal for Carolina, which got 28 saves from Ward before the shootout.

WILD 3, KINGS 2

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Matt Moulson and Mikko Koivu

scored 62 seconds apart in the third period, and Zach Parise connected on a power play for the Minnesota Wild, who rallied for a victory that ended the Los Angeles Kings' six-game winning streak.

Ilya Bryzgalov made 18 saves for the Wild. It was the second time in eight games that the Kings lost in regulation when leading after two periods — something that happened only

once in their previous 138 contests.

Alec Martinez and Justin Williams scored for Los Angeles, both capitalizing on turnovers by defenseman Jared Spurgeon in his zone. Jonathan Quick stopped 17 shots.

DUCKS 5, JETS 4, OT

ANAHEIM, California (AP) — Stephane Robidas scored 16 seconds into overtime as Anaheim staged the biggest comeback in team history by rallying from four goals down to beat Winnipeg.

Andrew Cogliano and Luca Sbisa assisted on Robidas' fifth goal of the season.

Anaheim outshot the Jets 25-6 in the third period and outscored them 3-0 to force overtime.

Corey Perry tied it 4-4 with 22.7 seconds remaining in regulation, scoring his 39th goal after Anaheim pulled rookie goalie Frederik Andersen for an extra skater.

Nick Bonino cut the Ducks' deficit to 4-1 in the second period, and Ryan Getzlaf and Hampus Lindholm scored in the third to set up Perry's heroics. Andersen (18-5) stopped 32 shots.

The Ducks (49-18-8) established a franchise record for most wins in a season. □

Master

Continued from page 17

Operating through a small incision in the lower back, surgeons remove small disc fragments that are pressing against spinal nerves.

Recovery can take several weeks and doctors typically advise against bending and twisting the back until patients are completely healed.

"This is frustrating," Woods said. "But it's something my doctors advised me to do for my immediate and long-term health."

His website said repeating the motion of a golf swing can cause problems with a pinched nerve, and



Tiger Woods speaks during a news conference at the Newseum in Washington, Monday, March 24, 2014, during an announcement that Quicken Loans had signed a multi-year agreement to become the title sponsor of the Quicken Loans National to be played at Congressional in Bethesda, Md., in June.

Associated Press

that the injury could have become worse if he had continued to play. Woods said he hopes to return to golf this summer, though he could not say when. It's

possible he could at least start chipping and putting in three weeks.

He will have to wait until the U.S. Open — maybe longer — to resume his quest

to reach Jack Nicklaus' record 18 professional majors. Woods won his 14th major at the 2008 U.S. Open on a badly injured left leg that required season-ending surgery two days after his playoff win at Torrey Pines. He has not won another major since then.

This would have been the 20th straight Masters for Woods, dating to 1995 when he tied for 41st as the U.S. Amateur champion. He missed the British Open and PGA Championship in 2008 after knee surgery, and the U.S. Open and British Open in 2011 to heal more injuries in his left leg.

But he never missed the Masters, even after the scandal in his personal life at the end of 2009. Woods had been out of golf for

nearly five months dealing with a car crash into a fire hydrant, revelations of multiple extramarital affairs and 45 days in a Mississippi clinic when he returned to Augusta National under intense scrutiny. He tied for fourth. Even though he hasn't won the Masters in nine years, he had only finished out of the top 10 one time, in 2012.

Woods has 79 career wins on the PGA Tour, three short of the record held by Sam Snead. He already was off to the worst start of his career. He missed a 54-hole cut at Torrey Pines, where he was the defending champion. He tied for 41st in Dubai, and then withdrew from the Honda Classic and tied for 25th at Doral. □



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Venus Williams needs 3 sets in Charleston win

BRUCE SMITH
Associated Press

CHARLESTON, South Carolina (AP) — An ailing Venus Williams needed three sets to edge Barbora Zahlavova Strycova 6-3, 0-6, 7-5 in the first round of the Family Circle Cup on Tuesday. "I've actually been pretty sick lately — I've been having like a bug," she said after the match that lasted 2 hours, 15 minutes on the green clay at the Family Circle Tennis Center. "You

just have to play your way into the week and just continue to feel better." The seven-time Grand Slam champion has battled injuries and Sjogren's syndrome, a fatigue-causing autoimmune disease, during the past two years. "I haven't gotten rid of it. I wish I could have. Unfortunately it just clings to me," Williams said. "I've just learned to handle it mentally and also I try to do things all the time, just



Venus Williams serves to Anna Schmiedlova of Slovakia, at the Sony Open tennis tournament, Friday, March 21, 2014, in Key Biscayne, Fla. Williams defeated Schmiedlova 6-3, 6-3.

Associated Press

1968 Olympic champ Lee Evans given doping ban

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP) — Lee Evans, the double Olympic champion whose world track records at the 1968 Games stood for 20 years, has been banned from coaching for four years for providing a minor in Nigeria with performance-enhancing substances, the country's athletics federation said. Evans, 67, was working as an athletics consultant for the Lagos state government and gave substances to the girl at a training camp last year that "may have been responsible" for her failing a doping test, the Athletics Federation of Nigeria said in a statement on Monday. The federation's anti-doping committee banned another coach for life for taking the same young athlete to a doctor, who injected her with an unknown substance which caused her to collapse, the AFN said. The AFN did not name the athlete because she was a minor,

it said. A third man was cleared of wrongdoing in the doping investigation. In a statement, the AFN said Evans claimed he gave the girl "supplements" for her "health" in February and March 2013 and that they were not prohibited. The four-member disciplinary panel found he provided her with performance-enhancing substances and banned him for four years from Feb. 17. The federation did not name the substances for which the girl tested positive. The second coach, Abass Rauf, claimed in his defense he took her to the doctor to receive treatment for malaria. "She (the athlete) claimed she collapsed after the injection and when she was revived, she asked the coach why he brought her to be injected," the AFN said in its statement. "He (Rauf) said she should have confidence in him

that he could not harm her. He also warned her not to disclose what happened to anyone although she confided in her mother." In its decision, the AFN referred to Evans as a "legendary athlete." He was inducted into the U.S. Track and Field Hall of Fame in 1983 following his feats at the Mexico City Olympics, where he won gold in the 400 meters and 4x400 relay in world-record times. Evans' time of 43.86 seconds was the first sub-44-second run in the 400 and stood for two decades. It is still the seventh fastest of all time. Evans then wore a black beret and gave a black power salute on the podium alongside fellow black teammates and medalists Larry James and Ron Freeman. It was the same Olympics where Tommie Smith and John Carlos gave their famous salutes after the 200 meters. □

always going for optimal health." Top-ranked Serena Williams plays later Tuesday against 78th-ranked Jana Cepelova of Slovakia. She is aiming for her second straight title and third this year after winning a record seventh Sony Open last weekend. Venus Williams seemed in control of the match going up 6-3 in the first set and surrendering only two points in her last two service games. But the 56th-ranked Zahlavova Strycova rattled off seven straight games to shut out the 28th-ranked Williams in the second set and go up 1-0 in the third. Williams rallied for a 5-4 lead in the third set, but Zahlavova Strycova fought off four match points to win the game and tie the set at 5-all. Williams broke serve in the next game — helped by a final point double-fault — and held serve at love to win the match. Williams staved off what could have been her earliest exit at the Family Circle. She's making her seventh appearance at the tournament she won a decade

ago. Williams, who won the Dubai title this year, said she didn't get down on herself after dropping the second set. "My gosh, if you are careful and you don't play almost perfectly, every single player is so talented out here that you can drop a set or the match," Williams said. "So its stay focused, really believing in yourself and taking some chances and making your shots." Also Tuesday, American Vania King beat Julia Glushko 4-6, 7-5, 6-3, and Daniela Hantuchova of Slovakia defeated American wild card Shelby Rogers 7-5, 7-5. No. 13 Elena Vesnina of Russia cruised past Anna Schmiedlova of Slovakia, 6-2, 6-1, and Shuai Zhang of China outlasted Su-Wei Hsieh of Taiwan 3-6, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (0). In other matches, No. 14 seed Andrea Petkovic of Germany eliminated Lesia Tsurenko of the Ukraine, 6-7 (2), 6-4, 6-1, and Spain's Lourdes Dominguez Lino defeated countrywoman Anabel Medina Garrigues 6-3, 6-2. Peng Shuai of China defeated Caroline Garcia of France 6-2, 6-3. □



By: Dr. Carlos Viana

Headache relief

The French words for headache; mal de tête, has always seemed to make the affliction sound much less ominous. Thankfully most headaches are not serious even if very painful. However, head pain, in every country, is the most common human affliction and, even in this age of advances in medical technology there is still far more that we do not know about headaches than that which we do know.

In many eastern medical practices, especially Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) headaches have been treated with a higher success rate than they have in the West. Furthermore, TCM has a much different approach to understanding headaches, health, and the person as a whole.

Western, allopathic medicine classifies headaches by their specific symptoms and measurable biological effects. Individuals are usually classified as having a certain type of headache and treatment is based on this classification. There are eleven main types of headache classifications in western medicine. The first four are the most common and serious types of headaches and

include head pain caused from vascular (brain arteries changing shape), muscle contraction (tightness), traction, and inflammation.

The other types of headaches include environmental or behavioral headaches caused by factors such as caffeine withdrawal, eyestrain, poor posture, and hunger. Trauma headaches are headaches that result from an injury often times, which is minor. Sensitivity headaches are a reaction to an allergy, food, chemical or environmental substance. Finally, sinus headaches, dental headaches, and exertion headaches are self explanatory.

Pharmaceuticals, which have dangerous side affects, are by far the most widely used treatment for headaches in western medicine, but allopathic Doctors do recognize the role played with food in headaches.

Western doctors recognize sugar, MSG (Monosodium Glutamate, a flavor enhancer used in many foods), and food allergies as primary prevention factors in treating headaches. However, this is not nearly considered to be as important a factor as it is in Traditional Chinese Medicine.

Unfortunately, much more common treatment of headaches is through the use of pharmaceuticals. These pharmaceuticals are man made chemicals constructed with the intention of correcting a chemical imbalance. Western Medicine

usually sees these imbalances as coming from the liver, the endocrine system, and occasionally the nervous system. This treatment also includes the regulation of hormones, mostly in women and is tied to the menstruation cycle. Many women find that they get headaches the day before menstrual flow begins or the day that flow actually begins an effect of estrogen withdrawal.

Traditional Chinese medicine sees a headache essentially as a disharmony within the person. Thus our treatment is to rebalance the disharmony, which in turn will help not only the headache but make the individual healthier as a whole. In our clinic we take on an approach that identifies the source of the head pain. We know that everything in existence is related. Slow moving colons produce purification chemicals with an extremely unpleasant smell that stimulates mucus production in the sinuses, chest, and produce headaches. Colon hydrotherapy or the washing of the large intestines is an easy detoxification procedure that eliminates headaches from this source.

Acupuncture is a useful, inexpensive and effective form of treatment for people who suffer from chronic or migraine headaches. Studies have shown acupuncture to work better than conventional treatments alone and result in fewer headaches and no negative side affects. Also, it has been

shown repeatedly that acupuncture decreased the severity and frequency of headaches in those who experienced severe headaches. Acupuncture treatment involves the insertion of extremely fine needles into the skin at precise points in the body. It has been shown to help with migraine nausea and pain.

Many of the sources of headache pain we have seen in our clinic include dental problems and the toxic heavy metals that leak from dental amalgams. Headaches and migraines are an often reported complaint of people who have amalgam fillings in their teeth.

Dentists knowledgeable in biocompatible dentistry are very effective in improving the condition.

Herbal tradition has used the herbs like dandelion to treat head pain. Dandelion combined with herbs that also detoxify and support the liver are an even better combination. Eating foods right for your metabolic type and including a de-stressing exercise and getting enough sleep are good lifestyle choices.

Get The Point! The longer the headache or migraine is left untreated the harder it is to stop. Most of the pharmaceutical medications used for headaches have dangerous side effects and can cause rebound, which is a serious worsening of your headache. You probably already know that when you develop a migraine what may help is being

calm; staying in a dark, quiet room; and sleeping. Rather than wait for your next headache or migraine, consider treatment and prevention with acupuncture, herbal treatments, and a personalized diet that have a five thousand year old track record. Call to make an appointment.

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Windows 8 updates expected at Microsoft conference

ANICK JESDANUN

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Microsoft is following through on a promise to update its Windows 8 operating system on a regular basis to respond to consumers' complaints and other feedback.

Just months after the release of Windows 8.1, Microsoft is preparing changes to make it easier for people to use Windows with traditional keyboard and mouse controls. Among other things, Microsoft will add search, power and settings buttons to the Start page, so people don't have to figure out how to pull those functions from the right side of their screens. The update also promises easier ways to close apps.

Microsoft Corp. outlined some of the new features at a February conference in Barcelona, Spain, and will likely provide more details Wednesday as the company opens its annual Build software developers conference in San Francisco.

The new, yet-unnamed update is expected soon. It follows the October debut of Windows 8.1, which came just a year after the release of Windows 8. The pattern contrasts with Microsoft's past habit of waiting years to release major updates.

Microsoft is also updating its Windows Phone system to work better in corporate environments. The company will add VPN

support, for instance, to allow phones to connect with corporate networks securely. There will also be features that consumers in fast-growing emerging markets desire, including the ability for phones to have two SIM cards so people can switch carrier plans easily for the best deals.

The company hasn't announced pricing or specific availability for either update, but both are likely to be free downloads, based on past practice. They could be available as early as this month and will be among the first major software releases since Satya Nadella became Microsoft's CEO in February. It follows Nadella's unveiling last week of Word, Excel and PowerPoint apps for Apple's iPad.

Microsoft may also use the Build conference to update software developers on the company's plans to integrate the Windows Phone 8 system for smartphones, the Windows 8.1 system for tablets, laptops and desktops and the Xbox system for its game console. The company has said it is working to have its various systems share more of the underlying code, while retaining separate interfaces adapted to the specific devices. The integration will make it easier for developers to adapt apps for the various devices.

Microsoft, which is based in Redmond, Wash., saw lackluster demand when

Windows 8 and Windows Phone 8 came out in October 2012.

Windows 8 was supposed to be Microsoft's answer to the growing popularity of touch-screen devices such as smartphones and tablets. Instead, research firm IDC blamed Windows 8 for accelerating a decline in global PC

sued a free update to address some of the gripes. Now, people can run more than two apps side by side. The built-in browser lets people open more than 10 tabs without automatically closing older ones. Windows 8.1 also introduced new features, including a universal search function to help users find

Phone 8 came out with a thud some 17 months ago. One of its biggest drawbacks has been a lack of apps available for the system, compared with Apple's iOS and Google's Android. Microsoft is starting to catch up on that front. It has also updated Windows Phone 8 three times since its release to



This Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2013 file image shows a pre-release version of Windows 8.1 on a tablet in Los Angeles. A new, yet-unnamed Windows update is expected this spring, just months after the Windows 8.1 update came out.

Associated Press

shipments, which fell 14 percent in the first three months of 2013, the first full quarter with Windows 8.

Designed as a single system to unify tablets, laptops and desktop PCs, Windows 8 emphasizes touch-screen controls and sports a full-page home screen that is more common on mobile gadgets than traditional computers. Many consumers, however, hate that approach on laptops and desktops.

Last October, Microsoft is-

files stored on their computers along with Web content on the Internet.

At the time of the release, Microsoft promised to issue new features regularly.

The latest update will do just that. Microsoft has said the company is standing by its decision to embrace touch controls, while acknowledging that many of the remaining Windows gripes have come from people who use non-touch devices.

Meanwhile, Windows

add features. The upcoming update is poised to be the biggest of them all and might get a new name, Windows Phone 8.1.

The release comes as Microsoft prepares to buy Nokia's phone business and patent rights in a 5.4 billion euro (\$7.4 billion) deal. The transaction should be completed in the next few weeks, pending regulatory approval in Asia. The deal already has approval in the U.S. and Europe. □

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S&P 500 at record high on manufacturing spike

KEN SWEET

AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — New signs of life in the U.S. manufacturing sector helped push the stock market to a record high Tuesday.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 13.18 points, or 0.7 percent, to close at 1,885.52. That's above its previous record of 1,878.04, set on March 7. The gains were broad, with eight out of the ten sectors in the S&P 500 rising. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 74.95 points, or 0.5 percent, to 16,532.61. The technology-heavy Nasdaq composite rose 69.05 points, or 1.6 percent, to 4,268.04.

Investors were encouraged by two mostly positive economic reports focused on U.S. manufacturing.

The Institute for Supply Management's manufacturing index rose to 53.7 in March, up from 53.2 in February, as the nation's factories continued to rev up following the severe winter weather earlier this year. Separately, the Commerce Department said construction spending rose by 0.1 percent in February, after falling by 0.2 percent in January. Both reports were the latest signs that the U.S. economy was beginning to thaw following a difficult winter.

The biggest gainer in the S&P 500 was the medical device maker Intuitive Surgical, which jumped

\$55.61, or 13 percent, to \$493.60. The Food and Drug Administration approved the company's newest surgical robotic system, which

sales chief John Felice says demand picked up in the middle of March, and the company's top-selling F-Series truck sales gained 5

by fund managers moving money into the market for the first time after closing their books on the first quarter. The stock market



Traders Thomas Ferrigno, center, and Michael Smyth, right, work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. New signs of life in the U.S. manufacturing sector helped push the stock market to a record high Tuesday.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

is designed to do minimally invasive surgeries.

Other biotechnology and medical device stocks also rose, a welcome relief for a sector that has been beaten down in the last three weeks. Celgene rose 5 percent, Gilead Sciences rose 4 percent and Amgen rose 2 percent. Ford also was among the biggest gainers in the S&P 500 after reporting a bump up in sales last month. Ford's U.S.

percent. Other automakers also reported higher sales, including Chrysler and Toyota. Ford rose 72 cents, or 5 percent, to \$16.32.

"It's nice to see vehicle sales do well, even with the weather-related concerns last month," said Neil Massa, senior equity trader at John Hancock Asset Management. It was the first trading day of the second quarter, so Tuesday's trading was likely impacted

had a choppy first quarter, with the S&P 500 rising only 1.3 percent. In comparison, the S&P 500 rose more than 10 percent in the first quarter of 2013.

Later this week, the market will get the closely watched U.S. jobs report. Economists expect that U.S. employers created 191,000 jobs in March and the unemployment rate remained steady at 6.6 percent. □

Oil tumbles on China data, US supply forecast

The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The price of oil fell 1.6 percent Tuesday to just below \$100 a barrel, dented by soft Chinese manufacturing figures and expectations of another increase in U.S. crude stockpiles.

Benchmark U.S. crude for May delivery was down \$1.61 to \$99.97 a barrel in afternoon trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Brent crude, used to set prices for international varieties of oil used by many U.S. refineries, was down \$1.72 to \$106.04 a barrel in London.

Data showing weak manufacturing growth in China suggested oil demand growth could slow at the same time world supplies remain ample. Also, analysts say, tensions between Russia and Ukraine appeared to be easing somewhat, making it less likely that sanctions that could disrupt world oil supplies will be adopted.

The manufacturing index by the China Federation of Logistics & Purchasing ticked up to 50.3 points in March from 50.2 in February. Economists said the increase should have been a lot stronger because factories typically return to full speed in March after shutting for the extended Lunar New Year holiday, which begins in either January or February each year. The index uses a 100-point scale on which numbers above 50 indicate expansion.

"The hike was the smallest March upswing on record and suggests continued slowing in the country's manufacturing activity," wrote energy analyst Jim Ritterbusch in a report Tuesday.

China's economy has slowed after a decade of red-hot expansion as the country's leaders try to reduce reliance on trade and investment and encourage growth based on domestic spending.

Investors will later be monitoring fresh information on U.S. stockpiles of crude and refined products. □

Macy's CEO gives up title of president

ELIZABETH A. HARRIS

© 2014 New York Times

Macy's announced Monday that its chief merchandising officer, Jeffrey Gennette, would become the company's new president, a promotion that may put him next in line to become chief executive.

Until Monday, Terry J. Lundgren, Macy's chief executive, held the title of president, as well.

"I'm OK with going down to three titles," Lundgren said. "As of yesterday, I was chairman, president, CEO and most importantly, chief

customer officer of the company."

Gennette, 52, has held several positions at Macy's in different parts of the country.

He has been chief merchandising officer since 2009. Before that, he worked as the chief executive for regional divisions of the company. His first job at Macy's was as an executive trainee in 1983.

The economy's sluggish recovery, with lagging wage growth putting pressure on discretionary spending has been difficult for retailers.

The last holiday shopping season had exceptionally intense promotions and a parade of disappointing retail earnings, although Macy's has generally been performing better than most.

As president, Gennette will take responsibility for Macy's private brands, in addition to his portfolio of merchandising, marketing and macys.com. Lundgren said Gennette's new duties meant he would oversee an additional 20 percent of the business, the portion of its sales that come from pri-

vate brands.

But perhaps the most significant aspect of this move, is what the step that might come next.

"Nothing has been ordained, but you'd have to say he is the most likely" successor as chief executive, said Craig Johnson, president of Customer Growth Partners, a retail consulting and research firm. "The mark of a well-run company, including a well-governed company at the board level, is insisting that there is a good succession plan in place." □

US construction spending up tiny 0.1 percent

MARTIN CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. construction spending posted a slight increase in February as a rebound in construction of hotels and other nonresidential buildings offset a decline in housing. But housing construction fell as activity was still being depressed by the harsh winter.

Construction spending increased a scant 0.1 percent in February after a 0.2 percent drop in January, the Commerce Department reported Tuesday. The increase left construction at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$945.7 billion, 8.7 percent above the level of a year ago. The small increase in February came from a 1.2 percent advance in nonresi-

dential projects, led by a 3.5 percent rise in construction of hotels and motels. Spending on government projects edged up 0.1 percent, helped by a big gain at the federal level. Residential construction dropped 0.8 percent, the biggest setback since July. The increase in nonresidential construction was a rebound from January when spending in this area had

fallen 1 percent. The February increase was helped by gains in spending on construction of lodging establishments which offset weakness in office building and the category that includes shopping malls. The 0.1 percent rise in public construction reflected a 5.8 percent rise in spending at the federal level which offset a 0.5 percent decline in spending on state and

local government projects. Even with the small February advance, government construction spending is down 1 percent from a year ago government projects have been restrained by tight budgets. The 0.8 percent decline in housing construction followed sizable gains in the previous three months and was expected to be a temporary drop. □

US manufacturing expanded more quickly in March

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. manufacturing grew at a slightly faster pace in March compared with February as factory output recovered from disruptions caused by severe winter weather. Manufacturers also received more orders, suggesting that production could strengthen a bit in the months ahead. The Institute for Supply Management, a group of purchasing managers, said Tuesday that its manufacturing index increased to 53.7 from 53.2 in February. Any reading above 50 indicates expansion. The increase suggests that manufacturing is growing at a steady but modest pace after cold winter weather caused a sharp slowdown in the first two months of the year. Even so, factories are hiring at the slowest pace in nine months, the survey found. The government will release its official jobs report for March on Friday. Manufacturing activity had plunged in January as harsh snow storms shut down factories and disrupted supply

shipments. It rebounded slightly in February as orders and stockpiles grew. But a measure of production plummeted in February to a five-year low. That measure recovered all its losses in March. The overall index remains below the level that prevailed in the second half of last year, when it regularly topped 56. "There's still some catching up to do," said Jennifer Lee, an economist at BMO Capital Markets. "But at least it is heading in the right direction." The growth was broad-based and many comments from manufacturers in the survey were positive. Fourteen of the 18 industries tracked by the index reported growth. Other reports on manufacturing in recent weeks have been mixed. Factory production jumped in February, according to a Federal Reserve report two weeks ago, as manufacturers cranked out more cars, home electronics and chemicals. Output grew by the most in six months. Still, the rebound came after a sharp

fall in January. Meanwhile, orders received by U.S. factories for durable goods were disappointing in February, the government said in a sep-

arate report. Orders rose 2.2 percent, but mostly because of greater demand for commercial aircraft, a

volatile category. Excluding aircraft, autos and other transportation goods, orders rose just 0.2 percent. And a key category that reflects business investment



A truck engine sits on an assembly line as Ed Carbaugh prepares to install parts at a Volvo Trucks' manufacturing facility in Hagerstown, Md. The Institute for Supply Management, a trade group of purchasing managers, issued its index of manufacturing activity for March on Tuesday, April 1, 2014.

(AP Photo/Patrick Semansky)

arate report. Orders rose 2.2 percent, but mostly because of greater demand for commercial aircraft, a

fell a steep 1.3 percent, the second setback in three months. Last year, U.S. factories

were cranking out appliances, autos and other goods at a healthy pace until harsh winter weather descended. The ISM's index rose for six

US home prices rose in Feb. despite weaker sales

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. home prices rose in February from a year earlier at a solid pace, suggesting that a tight supply of available homes is boosting prices despite slowing sales. Real estate data provider CoreLogic said Tuesday that prices for existing

homes rose 12.2 percent in February from a year ago. That was up slightly from January's year-over-year pace of 12 percent. On a month-to-month basis, prices in February rose 0.8 percent from January. But CoreLogic's month-to-month prices aren't adjusted for seasonal patterns, such as winter weather,

which can depress sales. Snowstorms, rising prices and higher mortgage rates combined to reduce home sales in February to their lowest level in 19 months. A tight supply is helping boost prices even as sales slow. Sales fell 0.4 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.6 million in February from January,

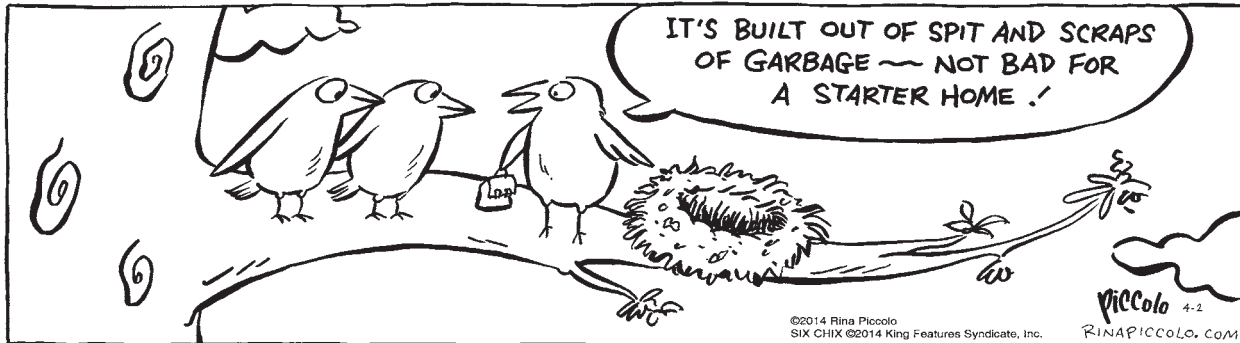
the National Association of Realtors said earlier this month. That sales pace would exhaust the number of available homes in 5.2 months, the Realtors' said — below the six-month supply typically available in healthy markets. The states with the biggest price gains in the past year were: California, where

prices rose 19.8 percent, followed by Nevada, 18.5 percent, and Georgia, 14.2 percent. No states posted a drop in home prices. Prices in four states reached a record high in February: Colorado, Nebraska, North Dakota and Texas. An additional 22 states are within 10 percent of their previous peaks, CoreLogic says. □

Mutts



6 Chix



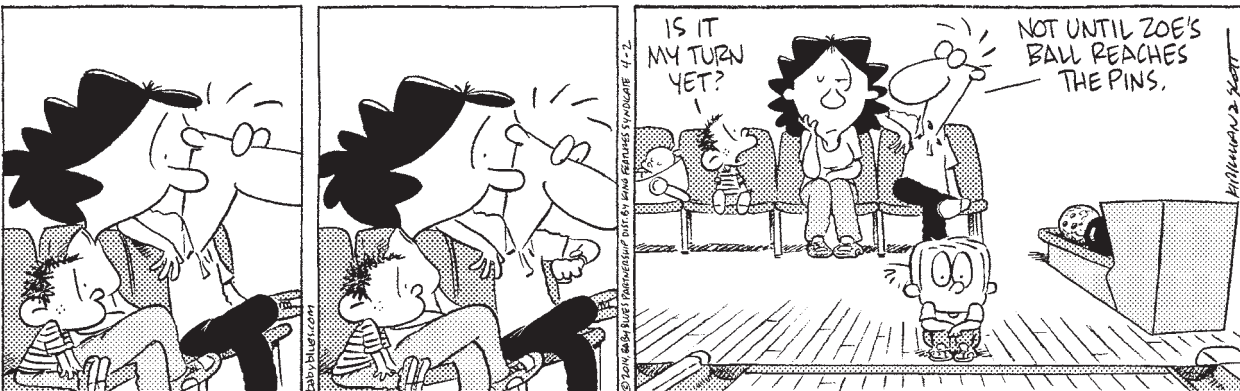
Blondie



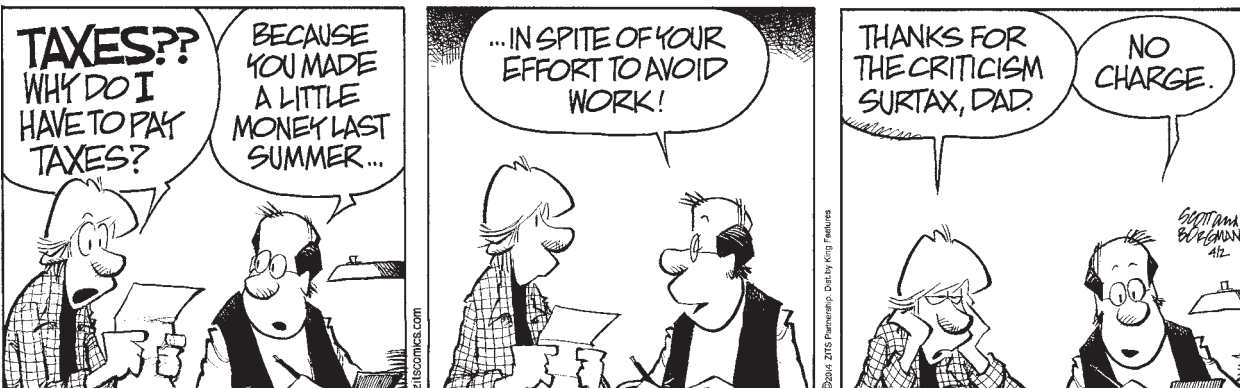
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			4	3	5	6	9		
		5						3	
6									2
3		6	4		9	7			5
5									4
9		1				2			6
1			7	8	5				3
	3						2		
		8	2	3	4	1			

Difficulty Level ★★★

4/02

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

6	7	8	9	5	3	4	1	2
5	1	9	2	4	6	3	8	7
3	4	2	7	8	1	9	5	6
7	3	4	8	2	9	1	6	5
2	9	1	6	7	5	8	3	4
8	6	5	1	3	4	2	7	9
1	5	3	4	9	7	6	2	8
4	2	7	3	6	8	5	9	1
9	8	6	5	1	2	7	4	3

ACROSS

- Signs of poorly mashed taters
- Sitting on
- Beanies and berets
- No longer together
- Police officer's spray
- Meanie
- FDR's affliction
- Hold __; keep
- Slim; slender
- Smiling contemptuously
- "On the double!"
- Warble
- Drywall coating
- Love seat
- "The Raven" and "Trees"
- Street address abbr.
- __ on; watches from hiding
- Indiana hoopster
- Paper quantity
- Cornered
- "__ Me Tender"
- Cruise ship stops, perhaps
- Zeal
- Feel miserable
- Blemishes
- In a tidy way
- Huge
- Money lent
- Using the Internet
- Lasts
- Malarial fever
- TV's Perlman
- Nebraska city
- Curry and Daly
- Deceased
- Belly button
- Aug.'s follower
- Hooting birds
- Smooth and shiny

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16		
17					18					19		
20					21			22	23			
			24				25					
26	27	28				29						
30			31		32			33	34	35	36	
37		38		39			40		41			
42			43		44			45		46		
			47		48			49		50		
51	52	53				54						
55						56				57	58	59
60					61	62			63			
64					65				66			
67					68				69			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

4/2/14

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

LAND	SCRUB	ARTS
EWER	HOUSE	TORO
NAVY	EISENHOWER	
DYE	SIFT	ONSET
	ROCKS	HOE
HANNAH	RIPSAW	
ELECT	WOODS	DIN
MOVE	BRIDE	LAVA
SHE	SOILS	SUPER
ARMPIT	CURTISY	
AIL	POLKA	
SPARE	SOAK	TAT
LEGISLATOR	RICE	
AREA	OVALS	HOMES
MUSH	TERSE	ONES

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4/2/14

DOWN

- Drinks like Fido
- Come __; find
- Man or boy

- Man of the cloth
- Building levels
- In the midst of
- Sharp flavor
- Fall month: abbr.
- Magazine title
- Enormous
- Representative
- Babble
- Spanish mister
- Bumbling
- Freeway entrance
- __ a question; inquired
- New Delhi woman's robe
- Namesakes of actress Arden
- Small duck
- One's equals
- Enraged
- Outer garment
- Wicked
- Depend
- Sloppiest
- Generous giver
- Twirl
- Motives
- Try too hard
- Critter
- Trenches around castles
- Ms. Dickinson
- In a __; losing game after game
- Goes first
- Ring out
- Rescue
- You, biblically
- Polio vaccine developer Jonas __
- Chop down

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Exxon: Highly unlikely world limits fossil fuels

JONATHAN FAHEY

AP Energy Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — On the same day the world's scientists issued their latest report on climate change and the risks it poses to society, America's biggest oil and gas company said the world's climate policies are "highly unlikely" to stop it from selling fossil fuels far into the future.

Exxon Mobil issued a report Monday on the risks that climate change policies could pose to the value of its assets and future profitability, by coincidence on the same day as the latest paper by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a Nobel Prize-winning United Nations group assembled to assess the science and risks of climate change.

Both Exxon and its critics used IPCC research to bolster their cases. Exxon's report was in response to the contentions of some shareholders and environmental activists that the assets underpinning the value of Exxon and other fossil fuel companies will be worth less as society restricts consumption of fossil fuels to fight climate change.

The report, the first detailed response to these concerns by a major oil company, acknowledges the need to adopt policies to address climate change. But it concludes that be-



This Nov. 13, 2013 file photo, shows typhoon damaged fuel tanks along the coast in Tanawan, central Philippines.

Associated Press

cause oil and gas are so critical to global development and economic growth, governments are "highly unlikely" to adopt policies that cut emissions so sharply that fossil fuel consumption would be severely restricted.

"We know enough based on the research and science that the risk (of climate change) is real and appropriate steps should be taken to address that risk," Ken Cohen, Exxon's government affairs chief, said in an interview Monday. "But given the essential role that energy plays

in everyone's lives, those steps need to be taken in context with other realities we face, including lifting much of the world's population out of poverty."

Natasha Lamb, director of equity research at Arjuna Capital, a sustainable wealth management group that filed the shareholder resolution with Exxon, called Exxon's report a "milestone."

"It's a huge first step in the right direction and it shows a lot of leadership," she said. Arjuna and As You Sow, a nonprofit that promotes environmental corporate responsibility, agreed to withdraw their resolution after Exxon agreed to issue a report on climate risks.

But Lamb said she was disappointed that Exxon declined to explain what would happen if society did in fact adopt policies that would lead to sharply

lower emissions, something known broadly as a low-carbon standard.

"The question is not whether or not we'll face the low carbon standard, but whether they are prepared to address it. We need to know what's at stake," she said. "But at least now investors know that Exxon is not addressing the low carbon scenario and (is) placing investor capital at risk." Exxon and the environmental groups agree that climate change is a risk and that society will take steps to reduce emissions from fossil fuels to slow the build-up of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. They differ, however, on how drastic society's response could be, and what would cost more — severely restricting fossil fuel consumption or not doing so and allowing more carbon dioxide to build in the atmosphere.

Exxon, along with other pri-

vate and government energy researchers, believes that demand for fossil fuels will continue to grow around the world as more people demand access to electricity, heat, and transportation. Exxon predicts that carbon dioxide emissions from energy sources will peak by about 2030 and then begin to decline as society becomes more efficient and switches to lower-carbon fuels.

The Irving, Texas-based company's report notes that its emissions predictions track closely with the IPCC's "intermediate" scenario considered in its last report. Exxon says that renewable energy sources are not now cheap enough nor technologically advanced enough to meet growing demand for energy, let alone also replace oil and gas. Governments therefore face a choice between restricting access to energy or raising the cost of energy significantly. In Exxon's view, governments will choose to raise the cost of fossil fuels to encourage alternatives somewhat, but stop well short of enacting policies that will sharply curtail consumption, especially in developing countries, because populations would resist and social upheaval would result. Arjuna Capital's Lamb disagrees. "There's greater risk of social upheaval from climate change itself," Arjuna Capital's Lamb says. "(Exxon's report) ignores the cost of inaction." Lamb points to some of the conclusions in the latest IPCC report, which says climate change will worsen problems that society already has, such as poverty, sickness, violence and displacement.

The report also says climate change will slow down the benefits of a modernizing society, such as regular economic growth and more efficient crop production — exactly the types of things that Exxon argues are delivered now only by relatively cheap and available fossil fuels. □

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FRAZIER MOORE

AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Like any "Dick Van Dyke Show" fan, he's happy to catch an occasional rerun of the show while flipping channels.

"If there's nothing new to watch, I'll let the episode play out," says Carl Reiner. "I'm always pleased to see how well those episodes have aged."

Reiner, of course, holds special status as a "DVD" confederate. He created this timeless half-century-old comedy, which premiered on CBS in October 1961, fueled by his real-life experiences as a TV comedy writer-performer and devoted family man in New Rochelle, N.Y.

Among all Reiner's projects as an actor, stand-up comedian, writer, director and producer, "The Dick Van Dyke Show" stands out for its creator: in many ways it tells his story.

A talented string bean named Van Dyke became Reiner's alter ego on the show, which ran for five seasons.

And, as no one needs reminding, the unknown actress who won instant stardom as Van Dyke's TV wife was Mary Tyler Moore.

Now, Moore is being spotlighted in a new collection of "DVD" DVDs. "The Dick Van Dyke Show: Classic Mary Tyler Moore Episodes" (\$24.98, Image Entertainment) gathers 20 episodes that dwell on the home life of Rob and Laura Petrie, putting the comic radiance of Moore on full display.

Episodes include "The Two Faces of Rob," where Rob fears Laura is cheating on him with a man Rob impersonated as a prank. On "My Husband Is a Check-Grabber," Laura is irked that Rob always springs for his friends' dinner which, she fears, could mean they won't be able to afford to send their little boy to college.

On "Never Bathe on Saturday," Laura is off-camera for much of the episode after she gets her toe stuck in the faucet of the tub while taking a bath. These complications, which take place in a posh Manhattan hotel suite, throw a wrench into what was meant to be a romantic getaway for her and Rob.

"You hear her voice, but she's hardly ever on-screen," says Reiner, now 92, during a recent phone conversation. "Mary was

a little upset about it. She wanted more time on camera.

"But I told her, 'Mary, I've just given America the chance to fantasize what you look like naked,'" chuckles Reiner, who wrote the episode. "When it came out, and she realized how very funny it is, she apologized by having a faucet mounted on a little plaque and sending it to my house."

Also included in the set is "Coast to Coast Big Mouth," where Laura blurts out to an interviewer that Rob's boss, conceited TV star Alan Brady, wears a toupee.

"One of the best episodes we ever did," says Reiner, and no "DVD" fan would disagree.

Part of the reason: Reiner makes one of his handful of appearances in the series as Brady, who is appalled that Laura made his baldness public. Brady's scene with Laura, terrified as she struggles to make amends, is a comedy masterpiece. Fortunately, Reiner wasn't nearly so vain.

The script, he says, was penned by Bill Persky and Sam Denoff, an up-and-coming writing team that wanted to break into this



In this 1965 file photo, from left, Dick Van Dyke, as Rob Petrie, and Mary Tyler Moore, as Laura Petrie, talk to Larry Matthews, who plays their son, Ritchie, on "The Dick Van Dyke Show."

Associated Press

hit sitcom.

"They knew me," says Reiner, "and they knew I wasn't at all self-conscious about being bald: I only wear a toupee to feel dressed-up, or if there are more than 5,000 people present. But they knew Alan Brady didn't feel the same way." This hilarious episode resulted.

"It was one of Mary's funniest performances," says Reiner, who still marvels at the comic genius he discovered and nurtured.

Moore had arrived at "The Dick Van Dyke Show" at age 24, a dancer with few acting credits and scant evidence of a gift for being funny. "She was a very quick study," Reiner sums up admiringly. "It didn't take her very long."

In this 1965 file photo, from left, Dick Van Dyke, as Rob Petrie, and Mary Tyler Moore, as Laura Petrie, talk to Larry Matthews, who plays their son, Ritchie, on "The Dick Van Dyke Show." □



In this Sept. 10, 2013 file photo, actor Bradley Whitford arrives at the PaleyFest Previews: Fall TV show "Trophy Wife" at The Paley Center for Media in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

ALICIA RANCILIO

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — With A-listers like Matthew McConaughey, Julia Roberts and Halle Berry jumping to TV, actor Bradley Whitford marvels at how show-biz stigma of the small screen is now a thing of the past.

Whitford is best known for his role as Deputy Chief of Staff Josh Lyman on NBC's critically acclaimed series "The West Wing" (1999-2006).

"I remember thinking, oh thank god there's this snobbery about TV," the 54-year-old actor said in

Whitford says film stars are now seeking television roles

a recent interview. "I was getting better writing by an exponential amount than Meryl Streep when I was on 'West Wing.' I was so grateful. "Now unfortunately, all the movie stars, the big flossers, have realized that not only do you get great writing, (but) it's a really satisfying way of storytelling. ... It's not about blowing stuff up."

He hopes this trend won't mean qualified actors will be overlooked for someone with a bigger name.

"If anybody had any idea that 'Breaking Bad' was gonna be a tenth as successful as it was, (creator) Vince (Gilligan) would not have been allowed to write

it," Whitford said. "Bryan (Cranston) would not have been allowed to be in it. None of that beautiful cast would be in it. Same with 'The Sopranos.' We never would've met James Gandolfini if anybody thought it was gonna be successful." Whitford said that was true to a certain extent with "West Wing."

"Nobody thought it was gonna work. 'You can't have a fake president. It's about politics, that never works,'" he said. "People found it and it grew to be much bigger than we ever thought it would be."

Whitford stars on the ABC comedy "Trophy Wife" (airing Tuesdays at 9:30 p.m.

EDT). He plays an older husband with a younger wife (Malin Akerman). His character has two ex-wives (Marcia Gay Harden and Michaela Watkins).

Despite the show's title, Akerman's Kate isn't a stereotypical piece of arm candy for Whitford's Pete, much like TBS' "Cougar Town" isn't about older women paired with younger men. Ratings for "Trophy Wife" have been so-so, but Whitford is hoping for a second season. He said he was "looking to do something different and comedy was definitely something I was looking for."

He also wanted to work with Harden. □



This Jan. 31, 2014 file photo shows television personality Rosie O'Donnell attends "Howard Stern's Birthday Bash," presented by SiriusXM, at the Hammerstein Ballroom in New York.

Associated Press

Rosie O'Donnell to get honorary Tony Award

MARK KENNEDY
AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Rosie O'Donnell is getting a Tony Award.

The award's administration committee said Tuesday that the former talk show host will get the 2014 Isabelle Stevenson Award, an honorary prize given to members of the theater community for their philanthropic efforts.

The committee cites O'Donnell's commitment to arts education for New York City's public school children. In 2003, the Emmy Award-winning O'Donnell a nonprofit arts education organization now known as Rosie's Theater Kids, which provides training in dance, music and drama for students attending public school in New York City.

O'Donnell has hosted the Tony Awards three times, and her theater credits include performing in "Grease," "Seussical" and "Fiddler on the Roof" as well as producing the musical "Taboo."

The Tony Awards are June 8. □

Kim Kardashian wades into Syria war debate



In this Oct. 4, 2012 file photo, television personality Kim Kardashian poses for photographers at the red carpet during the 40th anniversary of Cosmopolitan magazine in Spanish in Mexico City.

Associated Press

DIAA HADID
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Kim Kardashian has waded into Syria's conflict, calling on fans through Twitter to save the ancient Armenian Christian village of Kassab, whose residents fled as rebels seized control of the hamlet in late March.

She appeared to have bolstered false claims by loyalists of Syrian President Bashar Assad, who said Syrian rebels desecrated the village's churches and slaughtered residents. She used the #SaveKessab hashtag that was used to spread the false claims, causing its popularity to explode.

"If you don't know what's going on in Kessab please google it... As an Armenian, I grew up hearing so many painful stories," Kardashian wrote in a March 30 tweet, using an alternate spelling of the village's name. "Please let's not let history repeat itself!!!! Let's get this trending!!!! #SaveKessab #ArmenianGenocide," she wrote.

In doing so, the celebrity of Armenian descent underscored how Syria's war, more than any other in history, has been waged on social media, with both supporters of President Bashar Assad and those opposing his rule using selectively chosen videos and photos,

sometimes faked, recycled or altered, to support their grievances.

While wartime propaganda is as old as conflict itself, the Syrian conflict is a particularly unique case where all combatants heavily use social media, opening a window into a conflict that reporters can barely enter. Kardashian's use of the two hashtags side-by-side, "#SaveKessab" and "#ArmenianGenocide" also suggested she was also linking the flight of most of Kassab's 2,000 residents to the deaths of an estimated 1.5 million Armenians by Ottoman forces in the early 20th century.

The event is widely viewed by scholars as the first genocide of the 20th century. Turkey, however, denies that the deaths constituted genocide, saying the toll has been inflated and that those killed were victims of civil war and unrest. Kardashian's publicist Ina Treciokas said Kardashian was "just voicing her support for Armenians" and said she had no additional comment.

Kassab's residents fled after rebels seized their village on March 23, as part of a rebel offensive in the coastal Syrian province of Latakia, Assad's ancestral heartland. □

The Pixies say the best is yet to come

LUIS ANDRES HENAO
Associated Press

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — They inspired generations of musicians worldwide, served as the blueprint for countless rock bands, including Nirvana, and got a second life as reunited alternative rock idols. Now, the Pixies say they're forging ahead while still looking for a new sound.

The Boston quartet released their debut, the EP "Come on Pilgrim," in 1987. Their college-radio hits include "Monkey Gone to Heaven," "Here Comes

Your Man" and "Where is My Mind." They disbanded in the early 1990s and reunited in 2004.

Since then the band had released only one song, "Bam Thwok," in 2004.

But that changed in June, when a video for a new single, "Bagboy," showed up online unannounced. A few weeks later, the band surprised fans again with an online collection of four new songs released under the name "EP-1" and the announcement of a global tour.

Have they found the Pixies sound they want? "Not yet.

That's still to come," lead singer Charles Thompson, who goes by the name Black Francis, told The Associated Press behind the scenes at the Lollapalooza rock festival in Chile.

"Rome was not built in a day. I think we need a little more time to really create something that's absolutely different but we're in the process. With this record, we're moving in that direction."

The Pixies hired Argentine bassist Paz Lechantin in December after Kim Shattuck was fired after less than five months on the job. □



In this Sept. 20, 2013 file photo, rock band The Pixies, from left, Joey Santiago, Black Francis and David Lovering, pose for a portrait in promotion of their new EP and upcoming tour dates, in New York.

Associated Press

The Employer's Creed



DAVID BROOKS
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Dear Employers,

You may not realize it, but you have a powerful impact on the culture and the moral ecology of our era. If your human resources bosses decide they want to hire a certain sort of person, then young people begin turning themselves into that sort of person.

Therefore, I'm asking you to think about the following principles, this Employer's Creed. If you follow these principles in your hiring practices, you'll be sending a signal about what sort of person gets ahead.

You may correct some of the perversities at the upper reaches of our meritocracy. You may even help cultivate deeper, fuller human beings.

Bias hiring decisions against perfectionists. If you work in a white-collar sector that attracts highly educated job applicants, you've probably been flooded with résumés from people who are not so much human beings as perfect avatars of success. They got 3.8 grade-point averages in high school and college. They served in the cliché leadership positions on campus. They got all the perfect consultant/investment bank internships. During off-hours they distributed bed nets in Zambia and dug wells in Peru.

When you read these résumés, you have two thoughts. First, this applicant is awesome. Second, there's something completely flavorless here. This person has followed the cookie-cutter formula for what it means to be successful and you actually have no clue what the person is really like except for a high talent for social conformity. Either they have no desire to chart out an original life course or lack the courage to do so. Shy away from such people.

Bias hiring decisions toward dualists. The people you want to hire should have achieved some measure of conventional success, but they should have also engaged in some desperate lark that made no sense from a career or social status perspective. Maybe a person left a successful banking job to rescue the family dry-cleaning business in Akron. Maybe another had great grades at a fancy East Coast prep school but went off to a Christian college because she wanted a place to explore her values. These peoples have done at least one Deeply Un-

fashionable Thing. Such people have intrinsic motivation, native curiosity and social courage.

Bias toward truth-tellers. I recently ran into a fellow who hires a lot of people. He said he asks the following question during each interview. "Could you describe a time when you told the truth and it hurt you?" If the interviewee can't immediately come up with an episode, there may be a problem here.

Don't mindlessly favor people with high GPAs. Students who get straight A's have an ability to prudentially master their passions so they can achieve proficiency across a range of subjects. But you probably want employees who are relentlessly dedicated to one subject. In school, those people often got A's in subjects they were passionate about but got B's in subjects that did not arouse their imagination.

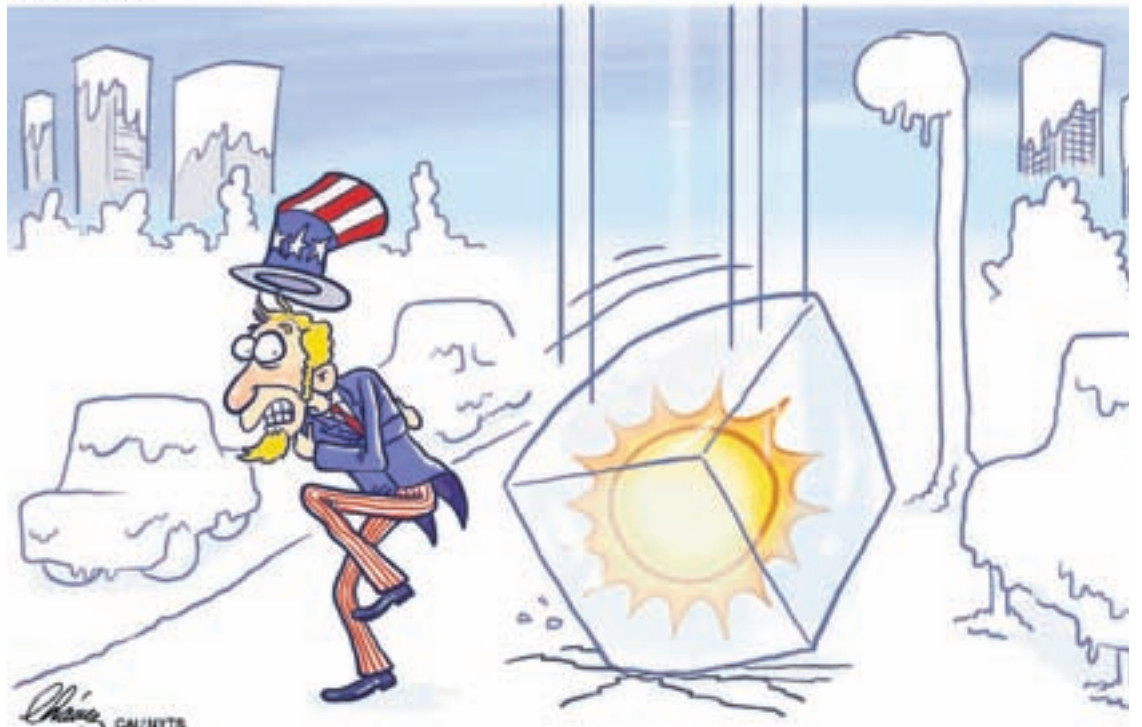
Reward the ripening virtues, not the blooming virtues. Some virtues bloom forth with youth: being intelligent, energetic, curious and pleasant. Some virtues only ripen over time: other-centeredness, having a sense for how events will flow, being able to discern what's right in the absence of external affirmation. These virtues usually come with experience, after a person has taken time off to raise children, been fired or learned to cope with having a cruel boss. The blooming virtues are great if you are hiring thousands of consultants to churn out reports. For most other jobs, you want the ripening ones, too.

Reward those who have come by way of sorrow. Job seekers are told to present one linear narrative to the world, one that can easily be read and digested as a series of clean conquests. But if you are stuck in an airport bar with a colleague after a horrible business trip, would you really want to have a drink with a person like that? No, you'd want a real human being, someone who'd experienced setback, suffering and recovery. You'd want someone with obvious holes in his résumé, who has learned the lessons that only suffering teaches, and who got back on track.

Reward cover letter rebels. Job seeking is the second greatest arena of social pretense in modern life - after dating. But some people choose not to spin and exaggerate.

They choose not to make each occasion seem more impressive than it really was. You want people who are radically straight, even with superiors.

You could argue that you don't actually want rich, full personalities for your company. You just want achievement drones who can perform specific tasks. I doubt that's in your company's long-term interests. But if you fear leaping out in this way, at least think of the effect you're having on the deeper sensibilities of the next generation, the kind of souls you are incentivizing and thus fashioning, the legacy you will leave behind. □



Our Crazy College Crossroads



FRANK BRUNI
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Over recent days the notices have gone out, an annual ritual of dashed hopes.

Brown University offered admission to the lowest fraction ever of the applicants it received: fewer than 1 in 10. The arithmetic was even more brutal at Stanford, Columbia, Yale.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill had a record number of students vying for its next freshman class - 31,321 - and accepted about 1 in 6 who applied from outside the state. Notre Dame took about 1 in 5 of all comers.

And right now many young men and women who didn't get in where they fervently longed to are worrying that it's some grim harbinger of their future, some sweeping judgment of their worth.

This is for them. And it's intended less as a balm for the rejected than as a reality check for a society gone nuts over the whole overheated process.

If you were shut out of an elite school, that doesn't mean you're less gifted than all of the students who were welcomed there.

It may mean only that you lacked the patronage that some of them had, or that you played the game less single-mindedly,

taking fewer SAT courses and failing to massage your biography with the same zeal.

A friend of mine in Africa told me recently about a center for orphans there that a rich American couple financed in part to give their own teenage children an exotic charity to visit occasionally and mine for college-application essays: admissions bait. That's the degree of cunning that comes into this frenzy.

Maybe the school that turned you down ranks high in the excessively publicized "College Salary Report" by PayScale.com, which looks at whose graduates go on to make the most money.

What a ludicrous list. It's at least as imperfectly assembled as the honor roll that U.S. News & World Report puts together every year. And even if you trust it, what does it tell you?

That the colleges at the top have the most clout and impart the best skills? Or that these colleges admit the most young people whose parents and previously established networks guarantee them a leg up?

Maybe it tells you merely that these colleges attract the budding plutocrats with the greatest concern for the heft of their paychecks. Is that the milieu you sought?

About money and professional advancement: Shiny diplomas from shiny schools help. It's a lie to say otherwise. But it's as foolish to accord their luster more consequence than the effort you put into your studies, the earnestness with which you hone your skills, what you actually learn. These are the sturdier building blocks of a career.

In "David and Goliath," Malcolm Gladwell makes the case that a less exclusive university may enable a student to stand out and flourish in a way that a more exclusive one doesn't. The selectiveness of Gladwell's science doesn't nullify the plausibility of his argument.

Corner offices in this country

teem with CEOs who didn't do their undergraduate work in the Ivy League. Marilyn Hewson of Lockheed Martin went to the University of Alabama. John Mackey of Whole Foods studied at the University of Texas, never finishing. Your diploma is, or should be, the least of what defines you. Show me someone whose identity is rooted in where he or she went to college.

I'll show you someone you really, really don't want at your Super Bowl party.

And your diploma will have infinitely less relevance to your fulfillment than so much else: the wisdom with which you choose your romantic partners; your interactions with the community you inhabit; your generosity toward the family that you inherited or the family that you've made.

If you're not bound for the school of your dreams, you're probably bound for a school that doesn't conform as tidily to your fantasies or promise to be as instantly snug a fit.

Good. College should be a crucible. It's about departure, not continuity: about turning a page and becoming a new person, not letting the ink dry on who, at 17 or 18, you already are. The disruption of your best-laid plans serves that. It's less a setback than a springboard.

A high school senior I know didn't get into several of the colleges she coveted most. She got into a few that are plenty excellent. And I've never been more impressed with her, because she quickly realized that her regrets pale beside her blessings and she pivoted from letdown to excitement.

That resiliency and talent for optimism will matter more down the line than the name of the school lucky enough to have her. Like those of her peers who are gracefully getting past this ordeal that our status-mad society has foisted on them, she'll do just fine.

A Light Lamb Stew That Arrives Just in Time

DAVID TANIS

© 2014 New York Times

It would be fair to say that French carnivores are in love with lamb. My favorite Parisian butcher has daily deliveries, and everyone in the neighborhood buys it. Of course, the customers are there for the show as well. The man is a maestro. With a knife and a cleaver, he can break down a lamb to primal parts in minutes;

springtime lamb dish worth knowing is navarin. It is essentially a braise made of lamb shoulder with white wine, garlic and thyme, preferably accompanied by a colorful bouquet of just-picked spring vegetables, including, if at all possible, tender young turnips. To fill out the picture, add fava beans, baby carrots and fennel, and, if spring has been especially kind,

appeal. Go ahead and add them. You can bet that a lot of Parisian cooks these days are tweaking traditional dishes, too.

LAMB RAGOUT WITH SPRING VEGETABLES

Time: 2 1/2 hours

Yield: 4 to 6 servings

3 pounds lamb shoulder, trimmed of exterior fat, cut in 2-inch chunks

trimmed and cut into 1-inch squares (reserve the fronds for garnish)

1/2 pound baby carrots, about 12, trimmed and peeled

2 pounds baby turnips, trimmed and halved or quartered

2 tablespoons butter

1 bunch scallions, cut in 2-inch lengths

1 teaspoon lemon zest

2 tablespoons parsley

5 to 8 minutes. Add garlic, bay leaf and thyme and cook for 1 minute, then stir in tomato paste. Sprinkle with flour and cook 2 minutes more. Add white wine and whisk well as mixture thickens. Whisk in broth and bring to a brisk simmer. 4. Return meat to pot. Cover pot and bake for about 1 hour 15 minutes, until meat is tender when probed. Taste sauce and adjust seasoning. Keep warm, or cool to room temperature and refrigerate overnight before proceeding with vegetables (which should be prepared right before serving).

5. Prepare the vegetables: Remove fava beans from pod. Blanch 2 minutes in boiling water, then cool in ice water. Peel and discard outer gray skin from each bean. You should have about 1 1/2 cups. Set aside. (If using frozen lima beans or edamame, cook the thawed beans for 3 to 4 minutes in salted boiling water.)

6. Bring a medium pot of fresh water to a boil and salt well. Add fennel and simmer until tender, about 2 minutes. Remove with spider and rinse with cold water to refresh. In the same pot, cook carrots until tender, about 4 minutes, then remove and refresh. Cook turnips for 3 minutes, then remove and refresh.

7. Just before serving, melt butter in a wide skillet over medium heat. Add cooked fennel, carrots and turnips. Add scallions and stir to distribute. Season with salt and pepper. Add a splash of water and cook until scallions have softened, about 2 minutes. Add fava beans and heat through. Stir in lemon zest and parsley.

8. Transfer meat and sauce to a large serving dish. Spoon vegetables around meat and garnish with fennel fronds.

Note: To make vegetable broth, simmer 1 sliced medium leek, 1 sliced small onion, 2 chopped mushrooms and 1 stalk chopped celery in 6 cups water for 30 minutes. Strain and refrigerate for up to 3 days. □



Navarin, a braise of lamb served with spring vegetables, carrots, fennel, turnip and fava beans, in New York. This French preparation traditionally served in the springtime is less complicated than it looks, with many components that can be prepared in advance.
(Fred R. Conrad/The New York Times)

he will tell you that each part has its virtues. The shoulder is good for braising or roasting. Neck makes great stews. The rack is a deluxe cut, for roasting rare or for chops, and the saddle, a boneless loin roast, makes an impressive high-end splurge, or it can be cut into loin chops. Lamb shanks are popular, and even the feet are used for a certain Provençal specialty. The iconic meal is a roasted leg, a must-have for special occasions, especially Easter. No proper French dinner of this sort would be correct without un bon gigot served with a side of skinny green beans. But another traditional

sweet green peas and asparagus tips. It sounds more complicated than it is. The lamb braise takes only an hour or so, and it can be made the day before. The vegetables can be prepped, and even par-cooked, a few hours in advance. To keep them looking fresh and vibrant, I like to stew the vegetables separately in butter just before serving, rather than cooking them in the pot with the meat, and finish them with lemon zest and parsley. This is, of course, old-school French cooking. If you want to give the navarin a bit of spice, a little toasted cumin and hot pepper may give it more modern

Salt and pepper
2 teaspoons fennel seed, crushed in a mortar or spice mill
2 tablespoons olive oil, more as needed
2 medium onions, diced, about 2 cups
4 garlic cloves, roughly chopped
1 bay leaf
A few sprigs fresh thyme
1 tablespoon tomato paste
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1 cup white wine
4 cups chicken or vegetable broth (see note)
3 pounds fava beans in the pod, or use
1 1/2 cups frozen baby lima beans or edamame, defrosted
1 medium fennel bulb,

1. Season lamb chunks generously with salt and pepper. Sprinkle with fennel seed and rub to distribute. Set aside for 30 minutes (or refrigerate for up to several hours, or overnight).
2. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Put 2 tablespoons oil into a Dutch oven or similar heavy pot over medium-high heat. When hot, add lamb and brown on all sides, until meat is well caramelized, about 10 minutes. Work in batches if necessary to avoid crowding pan.
3. Remove lamb, turn heat to medium and add onions (and a little oil if necessary) and cook, stirring, until softened and lightly colored,